WEST VIEW OF WORCESTER CATHEDRAL.

WEST VIEW OF WORCESTER CATHEDRAL.

Price (J.)
K

THE

WORCESTER GUIDE.

CONTAINING AN ACCOUNT OF THE

ANCIENT AND PRESENT STATE

OF

THAT CITY;

WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE

SEATS OF THE NOBILITY AND GENTRY

IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD,

AND

Every Particular neceſſary for the Information

OF THE STRANGER AND TRAVELLER.

EMBELLISHED WITH VIEWS, PLANS, &c.

WORCESTER:
PRINTED FOR W. SMART, BOOKSELLER, HIGH-STREET;
And ſold by J. Scatchard, Ave-Maria-Lane, London.

1799.

BRITISH MUSEUM

PREFACE.

THE general approbation given to Works of this kind, has been a ſufficient inducement to undertake one for this City. A Guide, in fact, is a matter of real utility, as well, perhaps, as of ſome amuſement; for, beſides conſulting the convenience of all, ſomething is attempted towards gratifying the curioſity of the more intelligent, by a rational deduction of hiſtoric facts, which, though for the moſt part local, are oftentimes worthy of public attention. In ſuch a work, brevity is indiſpenſibly requiſite; ſtill the Editor has endeavoured to pleaſe, by as copious a variety as the ſubject afforded. Great pains have been taken to render the whole as exact as poſſible; he, therefore, truſts that it will be found as accurate and ample an Account of the City of Worceſter, and its Vicinity, as the nature and ſize of the work will admit of.

J. PRICE.

Worceſter, South Parade.

CONTENTS.

PAGE.

Etymology of the Name—Worcester 1
Sketches concerning the City and Vicinity 3
Topographical Account of the City 33
Population 34
Plan 35
Salubrity of its Situation 37
Government 38
Public Buildings 39
Trade and Manufactures 49
Public Walks, &c. 53
The Severn 54
Account of the Biſhoprick of Worceſter 57
——— Cathedral 59
——— Monuments 64
——— Churches 73
——— Monaſteries 77
——— Hoſpitals 78
Eminent Perſons, Natives of Worceſter 80
Towns, Villages, and Seats, in the neighbourhood of Worceſter 85
The Worceſter Directory, containing the Arrival and Departure of the Mails, Stage Coaches, Waggons, Wherries, Barges, Trows, &c. 126

THE

WORCESTER GUIDE.

ETYMOLOGY.

IT certainly proves a matter of difficulty at the preſent period, to inveſtigate, with any accuracy or preciſion, the ancient name of the city of Worceſter. The great antiquity of it is unqueſtionable; and during the time it was under the dominion of the Saxons, we find it mentioned in various authors by different appellations. Writers, however, in general, during thoſe dark periods, were not very exact in the regularity of their orthography, and hence ariſes the uncertainty in which the origin and ancient ſtate of our cities is involved—a darkneſs which the moſt careful reſearch into original records can ſcarcely hope to diſpel, almoſt every thing relating to the ſtate of ancient Britain being covered with the veil of obſcurity.

Worceſter is called by the Welſh, *Caerwrangon*, *i. e.* a fortified city; by the Saxons it was written

Wiga-erne, ſignifying the warrior's lodge; others deduce the etymology from *Wic*, as the hills encompaſs it from the eaſt to the Severn. It was, as ſome writers relate, probably built by the Romans (ſaid to have been founded by Conſtantius Clorus,) who, to prevent the incurſions of the Britons on the oppoſite ſide of the Severn, planted cities as fortreſſes on the eaſtern bank.

But, without venturing etymologies, founded upon learned conjecture, or the fanciful interpretations of individuals (the opinions of men being ſo various), we will ſtep forward to the time of the Conqueror, by whoſe order Doomſday, the moſt authentic record we have, was completed. It is there written *Wirecеſtre*, the ſtation or camp under the hill; its termination, *ceſtre*, plainly denoting it to have been at that time fortified, as we find no exception whatever of the kind in the whole kingdom.

The venerable Bede, one of the moſt ancient of our Saxon writers, mentions this iſland to have contained twenty-eight very noble cities. Ninnius, an ancient Britiſh writer, in his catalogue of the ſame, calls the fourteenth *Caer Guarangon*; we may, therefore, ſafely follow Alfred of Beverley, and Henry of Huntingdon, in admitting it to be the city of Worceſter; for, as a further corroboration, we find that it is to this day called in the Britiſh language *Caer-wrangon*.

SKETCHES

CONCERNING

THE CITY AND ITS VICINITY.

THIS city is, beyond all doubt, a place of great antiquity, though particulars relating to it are, probably, after ſo long a period, loſt in the general wreck of time. When the Britons were driven over the Severn by the conquering Saxons, Worceſter was a part of the Mercian kingdom, and poſſeſſed by the Wiccii, who, ſeating themſelves on the turnings and windings of the pleaſant rivers Severn and Avon, took their name from thence; and by them, probably, was this city founded.

As Worceſter was placed on the confines of Wales, its inhabitants muſt certainly have ſuffered much from the wars and devaſtations of their turbulent neighbours: neither is it to be ſuppoſed that the Ancient Britons, valiant as they were, and fond of novelty, could coincide with the hard meaſures of the Engliſh. About the year 777, they made incurſions into the country adjacent to the Severn, and, it is ſaid, that about that period the city of Worceſter ſuffered conſiderably from their repeated inroads.

Some years after, when England was overrun with the depredations of the Danes, we find this place to have ſuffered in the general wretchedneſs

of the kingdom. It was plundered and burnt to the ground; inſomuch, that it remained in ruins, and uninhabited, until Ethelred, viceroy of the Wiccians, with his lady, Ethelfreda, daughter of Alfred the Great, invited the inhabitants to reſort again to their ancient reſidence; a Biſhop's ſee was eſtabliſhed here, and, numbers returning, great privileges were granted to them.

Notwithſtanding the loſſes ſuſtained by the plunderings of the Danes, yet, when a duty was laid upon the nation at large, called the *Danegelt*, to oppoſe their cruel devaſtations, we find Worceſter join with other parts of the kingdom in a refuſal to pay the ſubſidy. Though the evident deſign of this tax was to enable government to raiſe troops for the general ſecurity, and prevent a renewal of theſe plundering invaſions, yet ſuch is oftentimes the obſtinacy of mankind, even to ſchemes tending to their own good, that it was looked upon as oppreſſive by a great part of the nation; and a ſpirit of diſcontent ariſing, a general murmur ran through the whole country. Two of the *Huſcarles*, or confidential ſervants of the King, were ſent to Worceſter in 1041, to inſpect the collection of the tax, but the multitude roſe upon them, and, though they endeavoured to ſave themſelves in one of the towers, they were intercepted and ſlain.

King Hardicnute, highly irritated at this offence, was reſolved to take a ſevere revenge, and for that purpoſe detached a large body of forces, with orders to put all the inhabitants indiſcriminately to the

ſword, and afterwards to deſtroy the city. Biſhop Alfrick is even ſaid to have inſtigated him to this act of cruelty, becauſe the citizens had refuſed to accept him as their Biſhop.

This deſign would, in all probability, have been put into execution, had not the inhabitants been appriſed in time: they had previouſly endeavoured to treat with the King, by delivering up the chiefs concerned in the murderous act; but, now finding themſelves doomed to be involved in one general deſtruction, they broke off all pacific meaſures, and conſulted upon the beſt means of providing for their ſafety. Unanimity prevailed; for each individual, ſeeing the danger common, was forced to coincide with the beſt method for the general ſecurity. Not finding the city tenable, they prudently retired into the ſmall iſland of *Bevere*, about two miles from Worceſter, up the current of the river Severn. This they fortified with all poſſible ſkill, reſolving to ſell their lives dearly, or obtain from Hardicnute more moderate terms.

The ſoldiers, on their arrival at Worceſter, perceiving the place void of inhabitants, began to plunder the city, which laſted four days, and, after they had glutted their avarice, ſet it on fire, and the houſes, being built of timber and moſtly covered with ſtraw, were quickly reduced to aſhes. They afterwards went to attack thoſe who had entrenched themſelves in the iſland of Bevere; but meeting with a vigorous reſiſtance, and being frequently defeated, the commanders of the King's forces were ſo terrified

at the general ſpirit of diſcontent which ſeemed to prevail through the country, that they granted to the beſieged honourable terms of capitulation, which were accepted. Upon the retreat of the army, the inhabitants returned to rebuild the city.

Though it may, with probability, be conjectured that the city of Worceſter, after ſo general a deſtruction, muſt have taken a conſiderable time to reeſtabliſh itſelf, ſtill we find, in the Conqueror's Survey, (drawn up about forty years afterwards) that it was at that time a conſiderable city, with the privilege of coining money. In Doomſday it was taxed at fifteen hides; and when it coined any money, every coiner paid for his dies, at London, twenty ſhillings to the Conqueror, who received from hence 23*l.* 5*s.* in weight paid to him by the ſheriff, beſides a certain ſum of money from every houſeholder for the houſe he lived in, called burgage money.

To the Conqueror we find the inhabitants of Worceſter to have been faithful; to his ſon, Rufus, equally ſo, an inſtance of which occurred in the ſecond year of his reign. When Bernard de Newmark, with many other powerful Barons of the Marches, invaded this country in a hoſtile manner, threatening the lives and deſtroying the habitations of thoſe who adhered to the King, the citizens took up arms in their own defence, and, aided by the ſkilful advice of Biſhop Wulſtan, who defended the caſtle, they ſallied out when the detached parties were plundering the country in various directions, and totally defeated them after repeated engagements.

In the whole of this laudable tranſaction, as well as uniformly through life, Biſhop Wulſtan ſeems to have ſupported an amiable and unſullied character, which he obtained as much by the piety of his life, as by a cloſe attention to the happineſs and temporal welfare of his people. Yet as many form their opinions through ſome fooliſh prejudice, we find that ſevere reflections have been made upon this holy Prelate by ſundry *modern* writers; but if the utility of recording the noble deeds of the dead, be to excite in the living an emulation to imitate their virtuous examples, the page of hiſtory can hardly afford a more worthy object than that of this Prelate. It appears rather ſingular that the preſervation of the city was accompliſhed principally by the ſkilful counſel of Biſhop Wulſtan, without the co-operation of the Nobles of the adjacent diſtricts: the truth is, the Barons in general were, even then, jealous of the increaſe of the royal prerogative, and connived at any diſtaſter which might tend to diminiſh its riſing power: for during the prevalence of the feudal ſyſtem, many great families were ruined by revolutions in government; and the civil wars during the reign of Henry had given to that Monarch an opportunity of dividing ſome of the baronies, which by their power and opulence were become obnoxious to the crown.

Stephen, who aſcended the throne contrary to the rule of hereditary ſucceſſion, was obliged to purſue the ſame line of conduct. He expelled William de Beauchamp, who was Lord of the city and caſtle

of Worceſter, from his ſituation, as being too firmly attached to the Empreſs Maud, and gave it to Walleran, Earl of Mellent. Walleran ſoon after incurring the King's diſpleaſure, Stephen reſolved to deprive him of what he had formerly granted to him; but the former found ſo powerful a ſupport from the intereſt of the Nobles, that Stephen, in the fifteenth year of his reign, aſſaulted and burnt the city of Worceſter. He alſo made many fruitleſs attempts upon the caſtle, but was obliged to abandon the ſiege; whereupon he raiſed two forts or mounds to confine the garriſon, the one upon Henwick Hill, to the north-weſt of the city; the other on a part of the Red Hill, near Digley, to the ſouth-eaſt; the remains of which may be traced to this day.

Notwithſtanding numerous conceſſions were made during the preceding reigns in favour of the people, yet under John the ſpirit of liberty roſe to ſuch a height, that in 1214, when that Monarch held his chief ſynod at Worceſter, ſundry of the Nobles came with their petitions againſt the many grievances which were ſaid to exiſt.

The Barons uniting in their claims, the King was ſoon after obliged to ſign Magna Charta, and to reſtore to the different ranks of people ſome portion of the liberties of which his predeceſſors had deprived them. Soon after that memorable act, the Barons increaſed their inſults to the King, as liberty but too often degenerates into licentiouſneſs; and a war enſuing, they offered the crown to Philip, ſon of Lewis, King of France. The hatred that John

bore to the Barons was ever detrimental to his intereſt, and, through the power of William de Beauchamp, Lord of Worceſter, the Earl of Mellent, and others, who ſided with the Barons, we find that the city of Worceſter was delivered up to Philip ſoon after the commencement of that melancholy conteſt.

Though Worceſter was afterwards recovered to his intereſt, and large ſums raiſed ſpontaneouſly in the adjacent parts to ſupport John's cauſe, yet a ſeries of misfortunes ſeemed to attend that unfortunate Monarch: after having loſt his treaſure, &c. in the Waſh between Lincolnſhire and Norfolk, he arrived at the Abbey of Swinehead, where he died. By his own particular deſire, his body was brought by the Earl of Pembroke and the Pope's Legate to Worceſter, and interred with great pomp and ſplendour in the centre of the choir of that Cathedral. The following account of his death I find in an old book, in black letters, in the Spetchley Library: how far it may be authentic, I ſhall leave to the judgment of the better informed reader.—See Heylin and many other writers upon the ſame ſubject.

" And the Monke toke the cuppe and fylled it
" with goode ale, and broughte it before the Kyng-
" nelyng, Syre, ſayde he, Waſſayl, for never the
" daies of youre lyfe dronke ye of ſo goode a cuppe.
" Begyn, Monke, ſayde the Kynge, and the Monke
" dronke a gret draughte; ſo tooke the Kynge the
" cuppe, and the Kynge dronke alſoo a gret draughte
" and lette downe the cuppe. The Monke anone
" ryghte went into the farmarye and there dyed

" anone, on whoos ſoul God have mercie. The " Kynge aroſe up anone ful loyl at eaſe and com- " manded to remeve the table, and axed after the " Monke, and men tolde him that he was deed, for " his wombe was broken in ſundre. When the " Kynge herde this, he begun to ſwelle, for the " drynke he had dronke, and win two daies he " dyed on the morrowe after Saint Luke's day, " anno 1216."

John ſeems to have been particularly partial to Worceſter, as appears from the long reſidence he oftentimes made there; he alſo regulated the form of the civil government of moſt boroughs in the county, particularly of Droitwich and Bromſgrove; and granted to the Priory and Church of Worceſter the moſt valuable privileges they poſſeſſed; ſo that, notwithſtanding the odium and contempt which he incurred from his people, it muſt be acknowledged, that his reign was not altogether barren of laudable tranſactions.

From this time, except ſome partial details in which this city partook, in ſome ſmall degree, in the general calamities of the kingdom, we do not find any circumſtance ſufficiently material to record. Scenes of miſery and civil diſtreſs are but too carefully tranſmitted to poſterity in the page of hiſtory, whilſt the happy periods of peace and induſtry remain loſt and unrecorded. We may, therefore, conclude that this interval, in which all hiſtorical information is ſilent, was a time of peace and tranquillity to its induſtrious inhabitants.

But during the turbulent reign of Charles the

Firſt, we come to a period in the hiſtory of Worceſter when that city was doomed to ſuffer all the dire effects which civil diſſenſions generally entail upon mankind. It had been previouſly remarkable for its attachment to the cauſe of royalty, and during the great rebellion we find it adhere to the ſame line of conduct; a detail of the principal circumſtances from the commencement, in 1642, to the termination, in 1651, may, perhaps, prove acceptable.

This city, on account of the navigation of the river, the fertility of the adjacent country, the ſecurity of the place, and the reciprocal communication it had with other towns, ſoon became a deſirable object to Parliament, and accordingly early in the buſineſs we find ſundry attempts made to get poſſeſſion of it.

About the year 1642, the city was occupied by the King's forces, the ſtrength of its works was much augmented, and ſupplied with every thing requiſite for the defence of the place: but it was doomed not to remain long in a ſtate of tranquillity; for Colonel Tynes, with a body of nearly 6000 horſe and foot, laid ſiege to it, and formally demanded poſſeſſion of the place for the Parliament; but orders being given by the acting Governors, Lord Coventry and Sir William Ruſſel, for a reſolute defence, the republican army, being without any battering ordnance, thought proper, after a few ſkirmiſhes, to act merely on the defenſive.

Yet what the ſtrength and power of the enemy were not able to effect, the imprudent conduct of the

royal chiefs eafily brought to paſs. Prince Rupert, with his brother, Prince Maurice, in order to ſhew the utter contempt in which they held the Parliamentary forces, marched out of Worceſter with the greateſt part of the garriſon into a large meadow, called *Pitchcroft*. There they hung in effigy the chiefs of the oppoſite party, making the ſoldiers ſhoot at them, at the ſame time challenging the republicans, in the moſt inſolent language, to a trial of ſkill and courage.

The republicans, fired with indignation at ſuch a taunting diſplay of fictitious bravery, aſſembled together the greateſt part of their troops, though they were diſtributed round the different avenues to the city, and a great part ſtationed in St. John's, on the other ſide of the river Severn. Notwithſtanding this diſadvantage, Colonel Sandys and Colonel Auſtin exerted themſelves, and finding their men all actuated with the ſame ſpirit of anger and revenge, a furious and ſudden onſet was made upon the royal forces, who, not expecting ſuch an attack from the ſcattered corps of the enemy, and more prepared for pomp and parade than for a regular combat, were eaſily put to flight. The Prince's troops entered into the city in great diſorder, and Colonel Sandys reſolutely following them, a bloody and moſt ſpirited conflict enſued in the different ſtreets, which laſted till midnight. The chiefs of the royal party, fearful leſt the event ſhould prove fatal to them, and having every thing to dread from the ferocious ſpirit of the enemy, in caſe their retreat ſhould be cut off,

withdrew with the remains of their army over the bridge, leaving the city in the unexpected poſſeſſion of the enemy. The Earl of Eſſex the next day entering the city, the whole was ſeized upon for the uſe of the republican party.

Thus was this fine city expoſed to all the dire effects of rapine and plunder which an irritated enemy could deviſe, in conſequence of a mere act of ill-conceived bravado, more becoming the renowned Knight of La Mancha, than the prudent General of a regular army. It, however, preſents us with a remarkable inſtance of the uncertainty of warlike tranſactions, and, that the greateſt events may be oftentimes traced back to ſlender cauſes.

We may eaſily conceive that a place taken as it were by ſtorm, could not be ſaved from the pillaging deſigns of the ſoldiers: they accordingly viſited the Cathedral on the Sunday following, in large bodies, and wantonly plundered it of every thing which could be deemed valuable. They pulled down the altar, and burnt the greateſt part of the rich veſtments in the College-yard: they then deſtroyed or mutilated moſt of the tombs, taking off all the braſs-plates: lead alſo ſeems to have been an article, the value of which they could eaſily procure, as they ſtripped it off moſt of the public buildings, and even dug up all the pipes which were uſed to convey water from a fine ſpring in Henwick Hill, over the bridge to the Lavatory, adjacent to the Cathedral. The vault beneath the Cathedral was alſo examined, and in it was found

a large quantity of ſtores and proviſions which had been provided for the uſe of the garriſon. The Mayor and another Alderman were ſent priſoners to London, and with them a waggon-load of plate, weighing 2200*lb.* the greateſt part of which belonged to the Corporation, and was intended for the King's uſe.

The Earl of Eſſex, previous to his departure, impoſed a fine upon the city of 5000*l.* and then diſtributed his army into three bodies, with one of which he marched towards Shrewſbury, againſt that part of the royal forces which was commanded by the King in perſon.

But the loyalty of the inhabitants of Worceſter was not, however, entirely downcaſt: a certain ſpirit of irritation and revenge, cauſed by the repeated depredations and loſſes they had ſuſtained, ſeemed to pervade the minds of the principal citizens; for, although ſmall injuries may be effaced from the memory, yet a continual ſucceſſion of them, as in the preſent caſe, comprehended a multiplicity of circumſtances, all of which tended in no ſmall degree to renew the injury, and to enkindle freſh rage and animoſity.

In 1642, Worceſter was again taken by Sir John Byron; and in 1646, Sir William Brereton, Colonel Morgan, and Colonel Birch, ſummoned the city to ſurrender; but, receiving a ſpirited anſwer from the Governor, Waſhington, they drew off their forces towards Droitwich. The enſuing month they received numerous reinforcements, which had been

employed in the reduction of Ludlow Caſtle, and other places on the confines of Waſes, and made their approaches ſo near to the city, that the inhabitants were terrified, and mutinouſly inſiſted on the ſurrender of the place.

During the doubtful event of this civil conteſt, there had been always two contending parties in the city and neighbourhood, it being almoſt an impoſſibility for any gentleman to obſerve a neutrality. The loyaliſts, who conſiſted moſtly of perſons poſſeſſed of the greateſt rank and property both in the city and county, had numerous adherents; as, wherever there is wealth, there will be dependence and expectation. The republican party, on the contrary, was made up of men in low and deſperate circumſtances, who, fond of the novelty which civil commotions create, and oppreſſed by the frowns of the world, eaſily entered into any ſchemes which might alleviate their preſent indigence; poverty being ſo powerful as oftentimes to produce a paſſive compliance even with the crimes of others. The whole garriſon amounted at firſt to only 1507 men, including officers—a force much too ſmall to defend ſo extenſive a place. Of this the republican partizans within the city took advantage, and were reſolved to uſe all their endeavours to have the place given up to the beſiegers. A ſecret correſpondence was carried on between them, and every public plan or deſign of the Governors was generally fruſtrated by the immediate information communicated to the enemy. This, and various other reaſons, induced

the Governor, after mature deliberation, to ſurrender the city to Major-General Reyneſborough, on the 19th of July, 1646, by an honourable capitulation, which preſerved the city from plunder or deva ſtation.

A number of perſons of rank marched out of Worceſter on its ſurrender; among whom were the Earl of Shrewſbury, Lord Talbot, Lord Brereton, Sir Edward Littleton, Sir Rowland Berkeley, Sir Martin Sandys, Sir William Ruſſel, Sir Barnabas Scudamore the intrepid Governor of Hereford, and a number of other diſtinguiſhed perſonages.

There were found in the town 3000 ſoldiers, whereof townſmen were nearly 2000; 3000 ſtand of arms, 28 cannon, 6 drakes and ſling pieces: about 30 barrels of powder, match 6000; and corn and malt for ſix months—a ſupply of proviſions and ammunition which proved extremely uſeful to the Parliamentary army.

But theſe unhappy commotions, with which the whole nation was convulſed, were now coming to a criſis, and, after an interval of five years, this city was doomed to ſuffer for the cauſe of royalty all the the miſeries which civil diſcord and the animoſity of party could excite.

Charles II. with his army from Scotland, accompanied by the Dukes of Hamilton and Buckingham, and various other Noblemen, appeared before Worceſter. He had flattered himſelf, that Shrewſbury and Gloceſter would have declared for him during his march, and that his forces would have increaſed

by volunteers in the different parts of the country through which he paſſed, but quite the contrary happened; for when he came to Worceſter, he had the mortification to find that his troops were not more numerous than when he left Scotland. The principal inhabitants, who had always remained firm to the cauſe of royalty, rejoiced at an opportunity of leaving the banners of anarchy; the Common Council of the city had directed the gates, which the Parliamentary ſoldiers had kept ſhut, to be opened. This order was obeyed, inſomuch that the ſmall garriſon eſcaping by flight to Perſhore, the King entered the city without any oppoſition.

Various reaſons induced Charles to ſelect Worceſter as a place well ſuited for the commencement of his operations in England; ſome of them are briefly related in Ibbetſon's Proceedings in Parliament, No. 105, p. 1622.

"The 22d of Auguſt, 1651, with 500 horſe and "dragoons, about noon, he (the King) entered "Worceſter, than which, no place ſeemed more "to anſwer all his ends, it being a city ſeated on "the Severn, within twelve miles of five counties, "near unto Gloceſter, the Foreſt of Dean, and "South Wales, where Maſſey, (who, a little be-"fore called off from the Earl of Derby to ſerve "this deſign) pretended his greateſt intereſt to be; "and by gaining that place, the enemy well knew "he ſhould be maſter of all the paſſes upon Severn, "from Shrewſbury to Gloceſter, (and there not be-

" ing a hundred of the Parliament's forces within " twenty miles of him) he might lie the more ſecure " for refreſhing his wearied men, employ his in- " tereſt to get what additional men he could from " thoſe parts, or, at leaſt, might make it up a win- " ter war, and thereby gain time for foreign aſſiſt- " ance, and better opportunity for his agents to ſtir " up tumults in England, and for raiſing a new ar- " my in Scotland."

Charles, on his arrival, was proclaimed with great ſolemnity, and the ſame day publiſhed a manifeſto, declaring his grievances, ſpecifying the juſtice of his pretenſions, and exhorting the people to aſſiſt him in the recovery of the throne of his anceſtors. For this purpoſe, ſummonſes were ſent to the chief gentlemen of the city and neighbourhood, deſiring their attendance to conſult on the beſt means of ſecuring the public tranquillity. A general rendezvous was accordingly held on the 26th in Pitchcroft, where appeared Lord Talbot (afterwards Earl of Shrewſbury), Sir John Packington, Sir Walter Blount, Sir Rowland Berkeley, and other diſtinguiſhed perſons, with a reinforcement of about 2000 men, which, added to the King's forces, made an army of 12,000 men; but, being moſtly new raiſed, were in general badly equipped, and extremely deficient in regularity and diſcipline.

Cromwell, with all that diligence and activity for which he was ſo eminently conſpicuous, no ſooner heard of the King's arrival at Worceſter, than he left the ſiege of St. Johnſton's, on the 3d of Auguſt, in

order to purſue the unfortunate Monarch with all poſſible ſpeed. He accordingly ſet out with his army, which conſiſted of nearly of 17,000 men, and on the 28th arrived near Worceſter, and fixed his head-quarters at the houſe of Judge Berkeley, at Spetchley, within two miles of the city. Being joined by the troops under Fleetwood, Harriſon, Sir Thomas Honiwood, and others, the whole of his force is ſaid to have exceeded 30,000 men, the greateſt part of which was cavalry.

So ſhrewd and penetrating a perſon as Cromwell ſoon diſcovered that no time was to be loſt; and perceiving that the ſuperiority both in force and diſcipline was evidently in his favour, he knew that delays might prove extremely dangerous, and therefore conjured his different officers to uſe all poſſible expedition in their various attacks, and *chill*, as he hypocritically termed it, *the flower of pride before it could arrive at a bloſſom.* We accordingly find that the very day of his arrival was marked by a vigorous commencement of hoſtilities on the part of the republican army.

The quarters of the royaliſts were very extenſive, being obliged to defend all the paſſes of the Severn, and Major-General Maſſey had been ſtationed at Upton, with between 5 and 600 horſe, to ſecure that place and bridge: but theſe men were placed in different parts of the town and neighbourhood, for the better accommodation of themſelves and horſes, inſomuch that the main body deſtined to defend the paſs was quite inconſiderable. On the 28th, early in the morning, Major-General Lambert,

with a body of horſe and foot, came from Eveſham to reconnoitre them, and obſerving their careleſs poſture; remarking alſo, that the town was entirely open to his attack, he reſolved to take immediate advantage of the circumſtance. A party of his men was ordered to take poſſeſſion of the church, which was executed without much trouble, and the battery of cannon which had been planted in the church-yard turned againſt the enemy. All was hurry and confuſion among the royaliſts, who were not in the leaſt prepared for ſo ſudden an onſet, and before they could muſter their ſcattered forces together, the republicans had rendered themſelves maſters of the bridge, and ſecured their poſition on the weſtern bank.

A ſevere conteſt, notwithſtanding, enſued between the two parties, but the unexpected panic was not to be overcome; and though Major-General Maſſey did every thing that a brave and experienced officer could do, being himſelf ſhot through the hand and thigh, his detachment was completely routed, and forced to ſave themſelves by a precipitate flight to the troops ſtationed at Powyck.

This action was of infinite advantage to the republicans, as it not only rendered them maſters of an important paſs, but alſo compelled the King's forces to contract their ſtations, and at the ſame time ſhewed the royaliſts, that they had to cope with a well-diſciplined army, careful, circumſpect, and always ready to ſeize upon every advantage which might preſent itſelf. The Lord General the ſame

day moved his army to the Red Hill, and puſhed his advanced poſts cloſe to the walls; having fixed his mortars, a fierce bombardment was begun on the town. The Fort Royal, a ſtrong work erected on an aſcent towards the eaſt of the city, fired in return upon the enemy, but the artillerymen being moſtly inexperienced, little advantage was derived from their exertions.

The King in council, finding that little could be effected by remaining idle within the walls, whilſt the enemy without was making regular approaches, had concerted the ſcheme of making a ſally by night with 1500 ſelect men, to attack in two ſeparate detachments the enemy's outpoſts and camp on the Red Hill: but the whole plan proved abortive, and many were killed and wounded. Cromwell's adherents in Worceſter had made him acquainted both with the ſcheme and ſignals; and one Guy, who had conveyed the information, was the next day publicly hanged at the Croſs.

On the 3d of September, (the anniverſary of the battle of Dunbar, ſo fatal to the cauſe of monarchy,) Cromwell, who had paſſed the night at the houſe of a very intimate acquaintance, one Juſtice Symonds, near Spetchley, was up at break of day, and immediately ſent orders to Lieutenant-General Fleetwood (brother to Dr. Fleetwood, afterwards Biſhop of Worceſter,) who lay with a large body of troops on the weſtern ſide of the Severn, near Upton, to proceed with all poſſible diſpatch, and make a vigor-

ous attack on the royal forces ſtationed near the village of Powyck.

Cromwell in the mean time was buſily employed in throwing a bridge of boats over the Severn, about a quarter of a mile to the north of a place called the Catch, near to which the Teme forms a junction with that river. This part he had ſelected for various reaſons, as fit to attempt a paſſage, the diſtance from thence to Powyck not being above a mile, and about the ſame to Worceſter, ſo that he could either make a diverſion, or aſſiſt the forces under the command of Fleetwood: the paſſage alſo was ſo convenient that he could at his option, by letting his boats drop down the current, land his men either on the eaſt or weſt bank of the Teme, a circumſtance which afterwards proved of great utility.

A council had been convened by the King the ſame morning about nine o'clock, at the top of the Cathedral tower, from whence they had an advantageous view of the enemy: to their great aſtoniſhment they not only beheld the republicans employed in erecting a bridge of boats over the Severn, but plainly perceived the firing which had now begun between Fleetwood's detachment and the royal forces which lined the hedges near Powyck.

At this ſight Charles went in perſon to give the ſtricteſt orders to Major-General Montgomery, to defend the bridge of Powyck to the laſt extremity, and alſo to detach a party to oppoſe thoſe who were attempting to paſs the Severn; but the

King's inſtructions were rendered totally ineffectual by the ſpeedy and ſkilful exertions of the enemy. Scarcely was Fleetwood arrived at Powyck bridge, than the detachment ſent by Cromwell, having croſſed the Severn to the eaſtern bank of the Teme, and routed the party ſent to oppoſe them, came up, juſt in time to co-operate with him, and attacked the main body of the royaliſts, which was drawn up in *Wykefield*, a large common field, now incloſed, near to the bridge; being the ſame ground where King Charles the Firſt engaged the forces of the Parliament in the ſame month of September, in 1642.

Fleetwood, having ſoon rendered himſelf maſter of the bridge, and Cromwell's detachment preſſing on, the King's forces were attacked both in front and rear; notwithſtanding which, having diſcharged their muſquets, they came to puſh of pike with the enemy, but, after an obſtinate conteſt of nearly two hours, they were forced to give way, and getting into diſorder were purſued with great ſlaughter to the draw-bridge and gate of the city; Montgomery himſelf being dangerouſly wounded.

Cromwell, brave to temerity in the execution of military enterprizes, ſeems to have been the very ſoul and ſpirit of this expedition; he was the firſt who landed on the weſt ſide of the Severn over the bridge of boats, and acted on foot during the whole of the engagement, encouraging his men both by word and example to ſupport their former reputation for valour and intrepidity. The event of this

affair ſucceeded to the utmoſt of his wiſhes, and having witneſſed the complete rout of the enemy in that quarter, he returned in all haſte over the river to the main army encamped on the Red Hill.

During the hurry and buſtle of the morning, the King appointed the chief officers of his army to rendezvous at the houſe in which he reſided, towards the north end of New-ſtreet; the room in which they met was the King's bedchamber, facing the Corn Market. Over the entrance of the houſe is this inſcription—*Love God* (W. B. 1577, R. D.) *Honour the King.* It is the largeſt of the old houſes in the city. (Supplement to Gentleman's Magazine, 1790.) He there propoſed to them the meaſure of attacking the main army of the enemy with the whole force of the city.

This propoſal ſeemed to be in general acceded to, as it was the common opinion that the greateſt part of the republicans were on the weſtern bank of the Severn, and, conſequently, that by being ſo much weakened they might be attacked to advantage. General Leſlie alone intimated to the King, "that "the Scottiſh forces, as well as they appeared, would "not fight, and that he for one would not be re- "ſponſible for the event of ſuch a meaſure." Though to give good counſel be the moſt evident mark of a firm attachment, yet we find that his advice was treated with ſilent contempt; moſt of the officers, being young and inexperienced, were for vigorous meaſures, which agreeing with the King's private opinion, an engagement was reſolved upon,

and the whole force of the city was ordered to be in readineſs for a general action.

Cromwell, on his part, was not deficient in providing againſt every emergency; he had removed the principal part of his force to a more advantageous ſituation at *Perrywood*, at the ſouth end of which he cauſed a breaſt-work to be raiſed, and a battery of great guns to be opened upon the Fort Royal.

It was drawing towards evening, when the King, with the Dukes of Buckingham and Hamilton, Lord Grandiſon, Sir Alexander Forbes, and others of the nobility, marched with the main body of the army through Sidbury Gate, to make, according to the intended plan, an unexpected attack on the whole line of the enemy; but Cromwell, whoſe adherents in the city were numerous, had received intimation of their deſign, and had prepared accordingly. The King's troops advanced, but inſtead of meeting with ſmall and ſtraggling parties, they found the republicans arranged, and awaiting their approach, with Cromwell at their head, who was ſuppoſed to be with Fleetwood's forces at Powyck, on the other ſide of the Severn.

We ſeldom find haſty meaſures prove ſucceſsful, more particularly when not favoured by a certain contingency of circumſtances, or where ſome probability of ſucceſs does not ſeem ſufficiently evident to encourage the deſign. In addition to this imprudence, an obſtinate raſhneſs ſeems to have been prevalent during the whole of this battle, and the

reſult of it will juſtify the obſervation. Notwithſtanding the republicans were found ſo well prepared, the royal army was formed in order of battle, as well as the nature of the ground would permit, which proved in general highly unfavourable; for Cromwell, with his uſual ſkill, had ſeized upon every advantage, which could be derived from the range of the country. The ſignal for engaging is ſaid to have been given by Charles himſelf.

The conteſt was deſperate for four hours, the animoſity and hatred of the two parties being violent to a degree. Victory in the beginning ſeemed to favour the cauſe of the royaliſts, who forced Cromwell's troops to retreat, and took poſſeſſion of their great guns. The honour of this atchievement is aſcribed to the regiment commanded by the Duke of Hamilton, who behaved with aſtoniſhing bravery, having his horſe ſhot under him, and ſoon afterwards, fighting at the head of his men, was dangerouſly wounded.

But this ſucceſs was only momentary; perhaps, even (as mentioned in a ſhort MS. account) the retreat was a feint on the part of Cromwell, to throw them into confuſion; for, as ſoon as they preſſed on, and got ſomewhat deranged, a freſh attack was made with a numerous reinforcement received from Powyck. This unfortunately had the deſired effect; the royaliſts, who had expended all their ammunition, being obliged to fight with their ſwords, or the butt-ends of their muſquets, could not bear this onſet, and were obliged to give way.

The King uſed every effort to perſuade his men to renew the charge, riding up and down among them, with his hat in his hand, exhorting them to ſtand to their arms and fight like men; but finding all his entreaties in vain, he exclaimed, "*I had rather "you would ſhoot me, than keep me alive to ſee the ſad "conſequence of this day!*" All his endeavours were however uſeleſs: the royaliſts were overpowered, and Charles, being ſeen to ride away, the ſoldiers became panic-ſtruck, entire companies of the Scottiſh foot, as Leſlie had previouſly mentioned, threw down their arms, and the whole army retreated in great diſorder towards Sidbury Gate.

At this gate, which was rather narrow, Charles would certainly have been taken by Cromwell's cavalry, who were cloſe at his heels, had not one of the inhabitants drawn a load of hay into the gateway, which blocked up the paſſage, ſo that no horſe could enter. The King was obliged to diſmount, and, creeping under the hay, entered the city on foot. A cry being made to remount him, Mr. William Bagnal, a loyal gentleman who then lived in Sidbury, turned out his horſe ready ſaddled; upon this horſe his Majeſty (after the fate of the battle had been decided) made his eſcape from the back door of the houſe where he reſided, very narrowly avoiding the purſuit of Colonel Cobbet, who entered the front door juſt at the ſame time in ſearch of him.

It has been mentioned by ſome writers, that no royal mark of benevolence was given to Mr. Bagnal. It may be ſo: Charles, above all men, was parti-

cularly indebted to the generoſity and unſhaken loyalty of individuals for his ſupport and preſervation; but, let it be remembered, that the ſatisfaction of doing good is, of itſelf, a great reward; and unhappy, indeed, would it be for mankind, if no one would do a generous action without anticipating an adequate recompenſe for the ſame.

The republicans having taken the Fort Royal by ſtorm, put all indiſcriminately to the ſword, and its guns being pointed and fired upon the city, cauſed great confuſion, which was much augmented by the entrance of the victors, who poured in on all ſides. The Earl of Cleveland, Sir James Hamilton, Colonel Carles, Captain Hornyold, and others rallied what forces they could in Sidbury, and endeavoured to charge the enemy, but they were unſucceſsful, having numbers killed and wounded. The chief ſeat of the action lay near the Commandery; Duke Hamilton when wounded was carried thither and died. The next and laſt ſtand was made at a place called, the *Earl's Poſt*, nearly oppoſite to the Town-Hall, where the conflict was carried on with deſperate reſolution on the part of the royaliſts, but with no better ſucceſs than the former; they were overpowered by numbers, and no further attempt was made to reſiſt the impetuoſity of the conquerors.

The chief perſons ſlain in this battle were, the Duke of Hamilton, Captain W. Erwyne, Major Knox, Sir John Douglas, Mr. Coningeſby Colles, and about 3000 private men. The principal priſoners were, the Earls of Derby, Lauderdale, Cleve-

land and Shrewſbury, with Lord Wentworth taken in their flight; Generals Leſlie and Middleton, Sir Alexander Forbes, who commanded the Fort Royal, and, being ſhot through both the calves of his legs, lay in Perrywood all night; Robert Earl of Carnwarth, Alexander Earl of Kelly, John Lord St. Clare, Lord Grandiſon, Sir John Packington, Major-Generals Montgomery and Piſcotty, Colonel Keyth, Mr. Richard Fanſhaw, the King's Secretary, the General of the Ordnance, Adjutant-General of Foot, Marſhal General, 6 Colonels of horſe, 13 of foot, 9 Lieutenant-Colonels of horſe, 8 of foot, 6 Majors of horſe, 13 of foot, 37 Captains of horſe, 72 of foot, with a great number of inferior Officers; 158 colours, the King's ſtandard, his ſtar of S. S. and other things of conſiderable value fell into the hands of the victors.

Cromwell, in his account to Parliament, dated Sept. 4, 1651, ſtates "the royal army to have been "about 16,000 men; that the battle was long and "very near at hand, often at puſh of pike, and that "his own loſs did not exceed 200 men." But the following letter written by him to the Speaker of Parliament, ſeems to give the moſt accurate account of the action.

A Letter from the Lord General to the Hon. WILLIAM LENTHALL, Speaker of the Parliament.

"SIR,—Being ſo weary and ſcarce able to write, "yet I thought it my duty to let you know thus "much: that upon this day, being the third of

" September (remarkable for a mercy vouchſafed " to your forces on this day twelvemonth in Scot- " land,) we built a bridge over Severn between it " and Thame, about half a mile from Worceſter; " and another over Thame within piſtol-ſhot of the " other bridge. Lieutenant-General Fleetwood " and Major-General Deane marched from Upton, " on the ſouth-weſt ſide of the Severn, up to " Powyck, a town which was a paſſe the enemy " kept. We paſt over ſome horſe and foot, and " were in conjunction with the Lieutenant-Gene- " ral's forces. We beat the enemy from hedge to " hedge, till we beat them into Worceſter. The " enemy then drew all his forces on the other ſide " of the town, all but what he loſt, and made a very " conſiderable fight with us for three hours ſpace; " but in the end we beat them totally, and purſued " him to his royal fort, which we took, and indeed " have beat in his whole army.

" When we took this fort, we turned his own guns " upon him. The enemy hath had a great loſs, and " certainly is ſcattered and run ſeveral wayes; " we are in purſuit of him, and have laid forces " in ſeveral places, that we hope will gather him " up.

" Indeed, this hath been a very glorious mercy, " and as ſtiffe a conteſte for four or five hours as " ever I have ſeen; both your old forces and thoſe " new raiſed, have behaved themſelves with very " great courage, and he that made them come out, " made them willing to fight for you. The Lord

" God Almighty frame our hearts to reall thankful-
" neſs for this, which is alone his doing. I hope I
" ſhall within a day or two give you a more perfect
" account; in the mean time, I hope you will par-
" don,

" SIR,

" Your moſt humble ſervant,

" O. CROMWELL.

" Near Worceſter, 3 Sept. (3) 1651,
" ten at night."

Thus was a final blow given to all the civil conteſts, which had ſo long prevailed over different parts of Great Britain, and which eſtabliſhed Cromwell in the poſſeſſion of the three kingdoms. Few battles could be more critical or important as to the event; for if we judge of a victory, not by the number of the ſlain, or the partial miſeries entailed upon individuals, but by the advantages obtained by the conquering party, no engagement could be more deciſive as to the general iſſue.

The Parliamentary army, now maſters of the city, committed all thoſe depredations to which towns taken by ſtorm are generally ſubject: few of the citizens eſcaped their violence or cruelty; and in order to form ſome idea of the repeated loſſes ſuſtained during the conteſts, it may enable the reader to appreciate the injury which befel public and private property, by briefly ſtating the diſburſements of the city of Worceſter alone, commencing from the year 1643.

Lent to King Charles, at ſundry times	£.3500	0	0
Poor's money taken up for ditto - -	950	9	8
Paid for cloathing, ammunition, &c.	4435	3	11
	8885	13	7
Plunder of the city, as given in upon oath - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	80,000	0	0
Ruining the ſuburbs, hoſpitals, &c. -	100,000	0	0

Fortifications, 180*l.* per month.

Free quarter, contributions, fuel, &c. ariſing to an immenſe ſum.

TOPOGRAPHICAL
ACCOUNT OF THE CITY.

WORCESTER, a Biſhop's ſee, and a place of great fame and antiquity, is ſituate in a fine vale on the eaſtern bank of the Severn, nearly in the centre of the county to which it gives name. The ſurrounding country is peculiarly remarkable for its variety and fertility, and the boundaries and other outlines of view are every where pleaſing. Towards the eaſt, it is ſhielded by ſome fine woods, which, riſing into a hill, terminate the view in that direction; and, at the ſame time that they conduce to the beauty of the ſcenery, add much to the ſalubrity of the place, by ſheltering it from the eaſterly winds. It is open towards the north and ſouth, and has generally a briſk current of air in that direction—the courſe of the river which runs rapidly by the town. Towards the weſt the ſight is in ſome degree impeded by the ſwells which occur, yet the termination of the view is rendered by thoſe undulations rather more pleaſing; for the ſummits of the Malvern Hills deceive in the diſtance, and appear near to the city, though it be upwards of ſeven miles to the village of Malvern, ſituate at their baſis.

Worceſter was formerly ſurrounded with a very ſtrong wall, and had ſix handſome portes or gates, all of which have been judiciouſly taken down, in order to improve the different entrances into the city.

Leland, who lived temp. Hen. VIII. writes thus concerning this city:—"The towne of Worceſtre, "called in Welſh *Caer argo*, ſtandeth on the left "ripe of Severne, upon a grounde ſomewhat con- "deſcending from the river. It is reaſonably well "wodded and well maintained. In the wall be ſix "gates: the Bridge-gate on Severne, having a goodly "ſquare tower over it; a poſterne gate by St. Cle- "ment's Church, hard by the north ſide of the "bridge over Severne; the Foregate, a fayre piece "of work ſtanding by north; Sudbury Gate ſtand- "ing eaſt, in the way from Worceſtre to London; "St. Martin's Gate; Trinity Gate, this is but a "poſterne. There be diverſe fayre ſtreetes in the "towne, well builded with tymbre, but the fayreſt "and moſt celebrated ſtreete of the towne is from "the Biſhop's Palace to the Foregate, along by "north."

Worceſter lies in 52° 9′ 30″ north latitude, and 2° 0′ 15″ weſt longitude, 111 miles W. N. W. of London, 29 N. of Gloceſter, 30 E. by N. of Hereford, 25 S. W. of Birmingham, and is about four miles in circumference.

POPULATION.

The firſt account of the population of this city that I find mentioned, was made during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when the number of families amounted to 1025; and during the great rebellion in time of Charles I. the inhabitants amounted to 7176, and the garriſon to 2007, total 9,183.

In the Plan of the City, by Mr. G. Young, an accurate and ingenious Surveyor, in 1779, the number of houſes in the city and ſuburbs were ſtated to be 2449, and of inhabitants 13,104. Since the time of this ſurvey, a conſiderable increaſe of buildings has taken place in various parts of the city, but principally on the beautiful terrace of Henwick Hill, weſt of the Severn, inſomuch that we may venture to ſtate, with a ſufficient degree of accuracy, the preſent number of houſes in Worceſter and its ſuburbs to be 2563, and the inhabitants at about 13,720.

PLAN.

The plan and conſtruction of Worceſter in its outlines are regular, and, conſidering its great antiquity, may be deemed as perfect as any city in the kingdom. Great improvements have been made at ſundry periods in its various avenues; and the preſent undertaking of a more direct communication between Sidbury and the ſouth part of the High-ſtreet, will not only add much to the elegance of the place, but, in point of convenience, prove a valuable acquiſition to the public. The ſtreets are in general broad, ſo as to admit of a free circulation of air, and well paved and lighted; of theſe, the Fore-gate-ſtreet, the High-ſtreet, and the Broad-ſtreet, are extremely regular and beautiful; indeed, the general appearance of the whole city does credit to its inhabitants, and indicates at the ſame time both taſte and opulence.

REFERENCES TO THE ANNEXED PLAN OF THE CITY.

PRINCIPAL STREETS.

A. The Foregate-ſtreet.
B. The Croſs.
C. The High-ſtreet.
D. The Broad-ſtreet.
E. Sidbury.
F. Bridge-ſtreet.
G. New-ſtreet.
H. Friar-ſtreet.
I. Newport-ſtreet.
K. Silver-ſtreet.
L. Mealcheapen-ſtreet.
M. Cooken-ſtreet.
N. Edgar-ſtreet.
O. The Tything, &c.

CHURCHES, HOSPITALS, CHAPELS, &C.

CHURCHES.

a. The Cathedral.
b. St. Peter's.
c. St. Michael's.
d. St. Helen's.
e. St. Alban's.
f. St. Andrew's.
g. St. Martin's.
h. St. Swithin's.
i. St. Nicholas'.
k. All-Saints.
l. St. Clement's.

HOSPITALS.

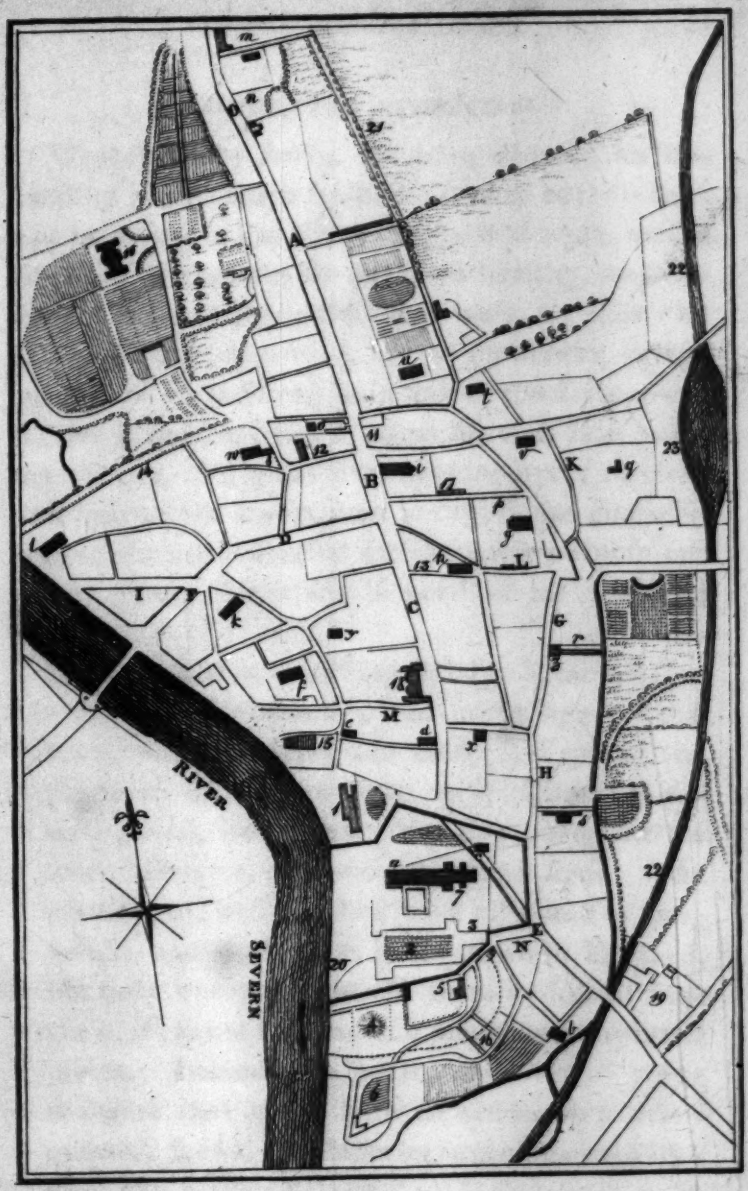
m. St. Oſwald's.
n. Skirving's.
o. Berkeley's.
p. Trinity.
q. Moore's.
r. Naſh's.
ſ. Wyat's.

CHAPELS, &c.

t. Roman Catholic Chapel.
u. Quakers' Meeting-houſe.
v. Anabaptiſts' ditto.
w. Preſbyterian ditto.
x. Independents' ditto.
y. Methodiſts' ditto.
z. Lady Huntingdon's Chapel.

PRINCIPAL BUILDINGS, &C.

1. Biſhop's Palace.
2. College-Green.
3. Edgar's Tower.
4. Caſtle Hill.
5. County Gaol.
6. Digley Bowling-Green.
7. Deanery.
8. City Library.
9. Regiſter Office.
10. Infirmary.
11. Hop-market.
12. Theatre.
13. Free School.
14. Cold Bath.
15. Flight and Barr's China Manufactory.
16. Chamberlain's ditto.
17. Reſervoir.
18. Guildhall.
19. The Commandery.
20. The Priory Ferry.
21. Sanſome-field's Walk.
22. Intended Canal.
23. Upper Baſon.



PLAN of the CITY of WORCESTER.

BRITISH
18 AP 68
MUSEUM

SALUBRITY OF ITS SITUATION.

Worceſter, by ſome, has been deemed an unhealthy place, much ſubject to fevers, but this cannot be owing to the air or any natural cauſe, as the ſituation is remarkably dry and healthy, and inſtances of longevity in the inhabitants, by which its ſalubrity may be proved, are as numerous, as appears from its regiſters, as in any of the large towns of the kingdom. Great pains have of late years been taken, and great expences incurred, to clear and enlarge the ſewers, and to ſupply the city with water; the works erected for the latter purpoſe are on the Severn, about a mile north of the city, and coſt upwards of 11,000*l.*

But, laying aſide objections, "let us admire," ſays Dr. Naſh, "the beauties and advantages of this "town, which, indeed, are many and great; the "ſtreets are broad, handſome, well built, and very "well paved, having excellent flag pavement for "foot-paſſengers, and no projecting ſigns. The "markets are well ſupplied with all kinds of pro-"viſions, and as cheap as in any town in England, "fiſh only excepted, which, from its inland ſitu-"ation, it cannot have in ſuch plenty as many other "places. Indeed, the great concourſe of polite "ſtrangers that come here to reſide from every "quarter, ſhews the ſuperior excellence of this "town and neighbourhood."

GOVERNMENT.

The government of this city is adminiſtered by a Mayor, Recorder, eight Aldermen and Juſtices, twelve Aldermen by courteſy (having ſerved the office of Mayor), and forty-eight Common Councilmen: there are alſo two Chamberlains, Town Clerk, &c.

It appears from the authority of ſundry records, that the civil privileges of this city were firſt granted by Henry I.—Henry III. in the 45th year of his reign, inveſted by his charter the government of this city in two Bailiffs, &c. before which time the chief civic power was lodged in the hands of a Conſtable. Other charters of privilege were granted by ſeveral Kings, his ſucceſſors, until James I. in the 19th year transferred the power from the juriſdiction of the Bailiffs to that of the Mayor. By deed 1684, Charles II. the Corporation ſurrendered their franchiſes to the Crown, but a few years afterwards were reſtored to their ancient rights by the King's proclamation.

It ſends two Members to Parliament. The right of election was agreed to be in the freemen not receiving alms, 7th Feb. 1693; in the citizens not receiving alms, and admitted to their freedom by birth or ſervitude, or by redemption, in order to trade within the city, 11th Feb. 1747. In number the electors are about 2,400.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The public buildings of Worceſter are numerous, and worthy of the dignity and grandeur of the city. Among the many handſome ſtructures which it has to boaſt of, one is remarkably pre-eminent, viz.

THE GUILDHALL,

Which is placed nearly in the middle of the High-ſtreet. It is a modern building, finiſhed about the year 1723, from a deſign of Mr. White, a native of Worceſter, and pupil of Sir Chriſtopher Wren. The *façade*, which is remarkable for its elegance, is adorned with a variety of ſtatues, and makes a very elegant appearance; neither is the inner part inferior to its external ſhew; the Hall on the firſt floor is a handſome light room, 110 feet 6 inches by 25 feet 6 inches, and 21 feet high. Towards the weſt are two ſpacious Courts of Juſtice, projecting from the main ſtructure, that on the ſouth ſide for the Niſi Prius Bar; and that on the north for the Crown Bar. Here the aſſizes and ſeſſions, both for the city and county, are holden.

Over the above is the Council Chamber, a moſt ſumptuous apartment, ſomewhat larger than that below, and has been lately beautified at a very conſiderable expence. In the centre, oppoſite to the entrance, is the portrait of his preſent Majeſty, a preſent from him to the Corporation, placed on a pedeſtal of ſtatuary marble, and otherwiſe elegantly embelliſhed. There are alſo in the Hall below ſome

other good portraits, among which a fine whole length painting of Thomas Winnington, Eſq. is eſteemed a maſterpiece by the ableſt connoiſſeurs: in ſhort, the whole of this extenſive fabric is well adapted to every purpoſe for which it was intended, and may be juſtly deemed the moſt elegant and magnificent of the kind in the kingdom.

HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

In large towns a number of poor muſt be expected, who, by being ſubject to more immediate neceſſities than the higher claſſes, are oftener driven to break through the eſtabliſhed laws of ſociety. They, therefore, become a very eſſential object of attention, and it is certainly a moſt worthy and meritorious undertaking, to render their indigence more ſupportable, and, at the ſame time, by diſcouraging idleneſs, to make them ſubſervient to beneficial purpoſes.

The handſome and extenſive new edifice built for this purpoſe, is placed on an eminence at a ſmall diſtance to the eaſt of the city, and is as remarkable for the elegance of its appearance, as for the fitneſs of deſign for the variety of purpoſes to which it is applied. The different pariſhes of the city agreed, ſome years ago, to eſtabliſh a general workhouſe, which has accordingly been done, under excellent regulations. It was erected by virtue of an act of the 32d of his preſent Majeſty, and is under the management of twelve directors, being calculated for the reception of 150 perſons. Here the poor of

both ſexes are well provided for, and trained up to the knowledge of trade, and, what is of great advantage, to the practice of religion and virtue.

Several attempts have been made to introduce different manufactories, but have not hitherto been attended with a ſucceſs adequate to the good intention. As the principal trade of the city is in the article of gloves, it has been conſidered by ſome, that confining the hands to that manufactory, would be more advantageous to the town and beneficial to the undertaking.

THE INFIRMARY.

In a country diſtinguiſhed for the opulence and humanity of its inhabitants, it is an agreeable taſk to ſhew how the ſuperfluities of wealth are directed to the relief of diſeaſe and poverty. The Infirmary of Worceſter, a public monument of beneficence and well-applied charity, is an elegant modern building, placed a little to the ſouth of the Foregate-ſtreet: the pleaſant and healthy ſituation in which it is built, renders it highly eligible for that purpoſe.

The ſcheme was firſt propoſed by Sir John Ruſhout, towards which he ſubſcribed the ſum of 500*l.* and, of this gentleman, there is in the Committee Room a moſt excellent marble buſt. In this laudable undertaking he was ſupported by Dr. Maddox, Biſhop of Worceſter, and by moſt of the nobility and gentry in the county. This exellent charity depends for ſupport on annual ſubſcriptions, and the intereſt of various legacies left to it, which have been hi-

therto found adequate to the various purpoſes of this noble inſtitution.

There is great neatneſs and elegance in the whole of the building, and the management of the different departments is conducted under ſuch excellent regulations, and in ſo orderly and prudent a manner, as juſtly to deſerve the ſupport of the public, and preſents a fine object for the opulent—to feel the real luxury of doing good.

THE THEATRE

Is ſituate in Angel-ſtreet; and is a neat and commodious building, well adapted for the intended purpoſe. It was built upon the following plan: twenty perſons ſubſcribed 50*l.* each, to be advanced on the ſecurity of the building; each ſubſcriber to receive intereſt for his money, and a ſilver ticket, transferable at pleaſure. Since the time of the original building, it has been much improved. Plays, during the ſeaſon, are exhibited in it four times a week; it is well frequented, and ſeems to give general ſatisfaction, under the management of Meſſrs. Watſon and Hoy.

Previous to the erection of this theatre, dramatic repreſentations were upon a very low ſcale in Worceſter; a ſtable in the back-yard of the King's-Head Inn, oppoſite to the Town-hall, being the only place appointed for the purpoſe; and in this ſequeſtered place of exhibition Mrs. Siddons, and various other capital performers, firſt felt the effects of public applauſe.

THE CITY LIBRARY.

This is an inſtitution, as we may ſay, as yet in its infancy, not having been eſtabliſhed many years. A Librarian, with a proper ſalary, is appointed to conduct it, and, from the well-ſelected purchaſes made annually by the Committee, it bids fair to become ſoon a numerous and valuable collection.

THE BRIDGE.

The old bridge over the Severn being narrow, inconvenient, and much out of repair, H. C. Boulton and J. Walſh, Eſqrs. the Members for the city, gave 3000*l.* either for repairing the old bridge, or towards the erection of a new one. Accordingly, in the year 1781, an elegant and ſuperb bridge was opened for the accommodation of the public, the expence of completing which, forming the avenues, quays, &c. are ſtated to amount to about 30,000*l.* It is a noble ſtructure, built under the direction of the late Mr. Gwyn, doing credit to the builder, and forming, from its judicious ſituation, by far the grandeſt entrance into the city of Worceſter.

THE CASTLE.

It appears, from the authority of ſundry records, that the Caſtle of Worceſter was built by Urſo d'Abitot, a Norman Captain, who came over with the Conqueror, and who was the founder of the Priory at Great Malvern. Leland deſcribes it in the following manner:

" The Caſtle ſtood hard on the ſouth part of the " Cathedral Church, almoſt on Severne: it is now " cleane downe, and half the baſe court or area of " it is new within the wall of the cloſe of the Ca- " thedral Church. The dungeon-hill of the Caſtle " is a great thinge, at this tyme overgrowen with " bruſh-wood. This Caſtle fell to ruin ſoon after " the Conqueſt, and half the ground of it was given " to the augmenting of the cloſe of the Priorye."

The guard of the Caſtle appertained to the office of Sheriff of the county, which was hereditary in the family of the Earls of Warwick, till the 10th of Edward IV. when Richard Neville, the great Earl of Saliſbury, in right of his wife Anne, ſiſter and ſole heireſs of Henry Earl of Warwick, being ſlain in Barnet field fighting againſt the King, this office was loſt, and annexed to the Crown. Since that period Sheriffs have been appointed annually, to whoſe juriſdiction the management of the Caſtle appertains by virtue of their office.

It was antiently a large and magnificent ſtructure, but little now remains as a teſtimonial of its former greatneſs; part of the rampire is not yet removed, and the exterior ditch may be eaſily traced, extending towards Edgar's Tower. This ſtately portal is the fineſt remnant of antiquity in the whole city. It formed the main entrance into the Caſtle, and appears by the ſtyle of building to have been coeval with the Church of St. Helen's, being erected, according to an inſcription on it, about the year 970. In the front are the ſtatues of King Edgar and his

two Queens, though much mutilated by time. The ſituation of this Caſtle was very ſelect, being placed contiguous to the banks of the river, and admirably adapted for defence. The artificial Mount, on the ſummit of which was the Keep of this ancient fortreſs, is now converted into a pleaſant garden, and the Caſtle itſelf is uſed as a County Priſon, conſiderable buildings having been added to it of late years, according to the plan of the philanthropic Mr. Howard.

TRADE & MANUFACTURES.

IN a well-governed city, nothing tends ſo much to increaſe both the number of the inhabitants, and the general wealth of the place, as the induſtry of the people and the multiplicity of its trades and manufactures. For as the works of induſtry are more valuable than the mere productions of nature, ſo more inhabitants are ſupported by the former than by the immediate produce of the latter; hence we find manufacturing towns more populous, than others not poſſeſſed of equal commercial advantages. England, indeed, has been long noted for the induſtrious ſpirit of its inhabitants, and a certain perſeverance requiſite to bring manufactures to a pitch of perfection; and it will be found by the ſequel that the city of Worceſter is by no means deficient in ſupporting the national character.

That it was formerly a place of great trade, appears from the account of Leland, who lived in the reign of Henry VIII.—"The wealthe of Worceſtre "ſtandeth moſt by draperinge, and no towne of "England at the preſente tyme maketh ſo much "cloth yearely, as this towne doth." The ſociety of Broad Cloth Makers of Worceſter was incorporated 2d Hen. VIII. from which time till the end of the laſt century, that trade was very conſiderable,

ſo as to employ at one time between 6 and 7000 perſons within the city, and twice that number in the various branches of the manufactory carried on in the neighbourhood. The manufacturers finding their trade ſo rapidly increaſing, preſumed too much upon the ſtrength of their credit. They overſtretched their cloths ſo much, that when they came to Blackwell Hall, a deficiency was always diſcovered in the meaſure. Such practices ſeldom ſucceed, particularly where there are ſo many competitors for public favour in the ſame line; and it has been juſtly obſerved, that trade is a tender plant, which, if not cultivated with care in one place, will naturally move to a more grateful ſoil. The workmen perſiſting, alſo, in making a thick heavy cloth, inſtead of one that was light and ſpongy, the merchants of Leghorn and Smyrna withheld their orders; and thus dwindled away one of the firſt branches of the commerce of Great-Britain, through the medium of which Worceſter had extended its trade to the moſt diſtant parts.—To this ſucceeded

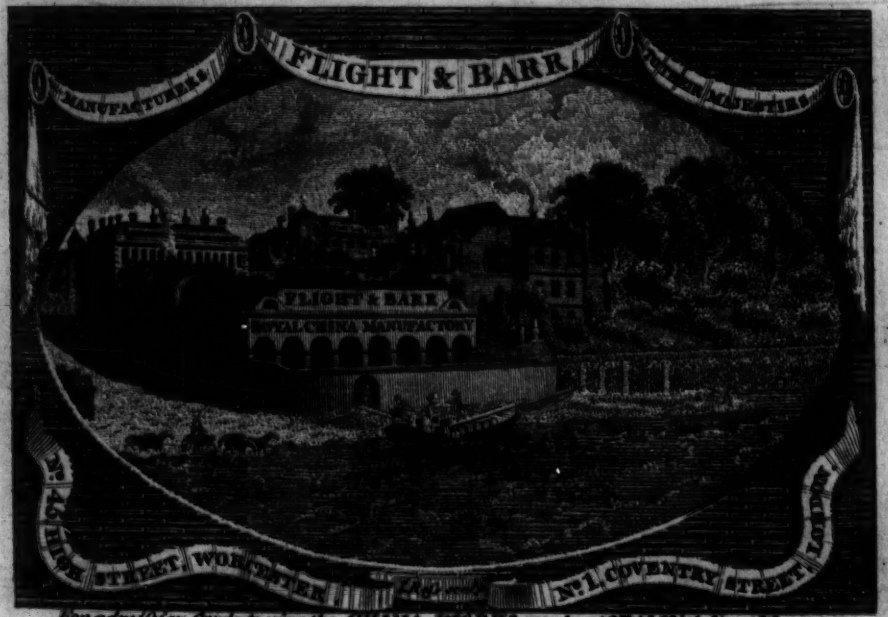
THE GLOVE TRADE,

Which has been brought of late years into great repute and perfection, and is now carried on upon a large ſcale, the greateſt part of it being for exportation. There are about 70 maſters, and the number of the perſons employed in this extenſive manufactory may be fairly eſtimated at about 6000. This trade is not only beneficial to the city at large and its vicinity, but alſo affords employment to

numbers of induſtrious poor in the pariſhes of Ledbury, Cradley, Boſbury, and various other parts of the adjoining county of Hereford. A ſpirit of improvement, has appeared in this trade in common with the other Britiſh manufactures; and the beauty and excellent quality of Worceſter gloves, have not only attracted the attention of home conſumers, but have likewiſe acquired an excellence in the eſtimation of foreign merchants, which, we have a right to preſume, will not only ſupport the preſent demand, but on the return of peace add conſiderably to the commercial advantages of the city of Worceſter.

CHINA MANUFACTORY.

Worceſter is alſo well known in the mercantile world, for its beautiful porcelain, great improvements in which have been made within theſe few years. The moſt juſt idea we can form of this porcelain is, that it is an half vitrified ſubſtance or manufacture, in a middle ſtate between the common earthen ware and pure glaſs. The compoſitions uſed by the Chineſe are well known by the names of *petenſee* and *kaolin*, and upon examination ſimilar ſubſtances were found in England, as well as in various parts of Europe. The late Dr. Wall, well known for his ſkill in chemiſtry, directed his reſearches to the inveſtigation of theſe materials; and to his experiments the city of Worceſter is principally indebted for the eſtabliſhment of this beautiful manufactory.



For admission Cards to view the CHINA WORKS apply at No. 45 High Street Worcester.

The Royal China Manufactory, of which Meſſrs. Flight and Barr are the ſole proprietors, is ſituate in Palace Row, near the banks of the Severn, and was formerly a large manſion-houſe, but is now converted into a buſy ſcene of art and induſtry. The building is extenſive and elegant, and the whole of the work is well worth the inſpection of the ingenious traveller. To enter into a minute account of the various proceſſes, &c. of the work, would be, certainly, ſuperfluous, as any reſpectable perſon, on application at No. 45, High-ſtreet, may have cards of admiſſion to view the manufactory.

The following extract from an account by an anonymous writer, may aſſiſt in aſcertaining the ſuperior excellency of the Worceſter China:—"The body "of the Worceſter ware far exceeds every other in "fineneſs and whiteneſs, in which it almoſt, if not "altogether, equals even the fineſt porcelain of "China itſelf, and is found to be much harder and "more durable than the body of any other porce-"lain whatever. The glazing of it never nips, "breaks off, or parts from the body, except by ex-"treme violence, and then it diſcovers no brown-"neſs, ſuch as is often ſeen in the ordinary Chineſe, "and almoſt always, after wear, in the other kinds "of porcelain: it is alſo perfectly clear and tranſpa-"rent, which is a quality that almoſt peculiarly "diſtinguiſhes it from the others of European ma-"nufacture."

But, what more particularly attracts notice is, the ſuperior ſtrength and beauty of colour of the Wor-

ceſter porcelain; for, it is to be obſerved, that the Chineſe painters, in perſpective, and more eſpecially thoſe who meddle with human figures, are ſorry proficients; whereas in this manufacture, the moſt liberal encouragement is given to ingenious painters in emblematical compoſitions, landſcapes, &c. Some years before the preſent war, great importations of this article were made from France, but happily Britiſh induſtry has now rendered them unneceſſary; for the latter productions of this manufactory have been deemed ſo ſuperior in beauty and quality, that foreign orders form at the preſent period great part of the concern, and are rapidly increaſing. To his preſent Majeſty, alſo, Meſſrs. Flight and Barr are under the higheſt obligations, for his gracious condeſcenſion to patronize this undertaking; and too much praiſe cannot be given to the patriotic and enlightened taſte of the nobility and gentry, who, by liberal encouragement, have rendered this manufactory not only the ſupport of many ingenious artiſts, but alſo an ornament to the kingdom at large.

Another manufactory ſince the above, has been eſtabliſhed under the firm of Chamberlain and Co. in Diglis, whoſe retail warehouſe is alſo in the High-ſtreet. Its productions are in high eſtimation, as the increaſing demands which continue to be made for their articles evidently evince.

HOP TRADE.

The Hop Market, ſituate almoſt in the centre of the city, is a large and regular pile of building, the interior of which forms an extenſive quadrangle, ſurrounded by well-built warehouſes; the rents of which, under the direction of the Guardians of the reſpective pariſhes in the city, are applied to the laudable purpoſe of ſupporting the Houſe of Induſtry. The Hop trade in this city is conducted on an extenſive ſcale, and, during the ſeaſon, is the moſt conſiderable market in the kingdom for that eſſential article; three-fifths of the produce of the ſurrounding plantations being, on an average, brought thither for ſale. The number of pockets ſold for the laſt twelve years may tend to ſhew the regular ſupply this market affords.

Years.	Pockets.	Years.	Pockets.
1787	16,064	1793	36,455
1788	21,486	1794	29,686
1789	13,423	1795	19,607
1790	22,325	1796	21,519
1791	25,437	1797	21,319
1792	27,735	1798	16,370

So that the average may be ſtated at about 23,000 pockets per annum, the price of which is ſo very precarious, that it would be futile to make any calculation on that head.

DISTILLERY.

The Diſtillery is a large concern, paying, according to the information I have received, about 700*l.* a week duty, and, from the excellent manner in which it is conducted, is rapidly increaſing. The diſtillation of Britiſh ſpirits in this kingdom, is a ſpecies of commerce that has often experienced the public cenſure, from an opinion of its great conſumption of grain—which is, however, an erroneous one, ſince, after the ſpirit is extracted, the refuſe will fatten nearly as many oxen and hogs as the ſame quantity of grain would do in its original ſtate, and a revenue ariſes to government of 1,200,000*l.* per annum. The farmer is likewiſe benefitted, as the manure from the hogs is the beſt that can be procured for the purpoſes of agriculture; and, the diſtillers working in the winter ſeaſon only, he is not deprived of labourers at that period of the year when he ſtands moſt in need of their ſervices. Upon a fair review of all the circumſtances, every unprejudiced perſon muſt acknowledge it to be a kind of commerce that, far from deſerving the public cenſure, ought to meet with its encouragement.

A FEW years ago the Carpet Manufactory formed a very conſiderable object in the trade of this city; but as commerce is very fickle and capricious, we find little done in that branch of buſineſs at the preſent period.

PUBLIC WALKS, &c.

THE walks near the city of Worceſter are numerous, and placed in a variety of favourite ſituations; that which may be deemed the principal, lies parallel with the Foregate-ſtreet, called Sanſome-fields Walk, ſhaded on each ſide by ſome fine trees: adjoining are ſeveral foot-paths through rich paſture grounds, for which the public are indebted to the taſte and liberality of Sir Charles Trubſhaw Withers.

There are many other ſelect walks, ſuch as near Perry Wood, the ſite of the engagement between King Charles and Cromwell, from whence is a fine view of the city, and as rich a proſpect, of the extenſive kind, as any in the county. Another over Rainbow Hill, or in the Moors near Pitchcroft, where the annual races are held, are cloſe to the city; with various beautiful walks in many directions on the margin of the river, one of which, towards the ſouth, is remarkably pleaſant, extending unto the plantations made by the late J. Berwick, Eſq. where the Teme forms a junction with the Severn. In addition to theſe, the Foregate-ſtreet itſelf, by being well paved, and ſufficiently broad, ſo as to admit of a free circulation of air, ſeems to be generally reſorted to as a faſhionable *promenade*.

During the ſummer months there are opened on the weſt ſide of the Severn ſome pleaſant gardens, called the Porto Bello Gardens, which, by being

placed on an eminence contiguous to the banks of the river, command a beautiful view of Worceſter and the circumjacent country. Great pains have been taken to bring them to their preſent flouriſhing ſtate; but as much company frequent them, it will doubtleſs anſwer the expectations of the proprietor. A boat is always ready at the ferry. There are alſo many other public places of amuſement at eaſy diſtances from the city, to enumerate which ſingly, may, perhaps, be deemed ſuperfluous.

THE SEVERN.

The River Severn, from which Worceſter derives ſuch conſiderable advantages, takes its name from *ſabi* and *ſabrin*, ſandy, from the muddineſs of the water after rain; in Latin, *Sabrina*; in Welſh, *Ha au rian*, ſignifying the queen or chief river. It riſes in Plinlymmon Mountain, in Montgomeryſhire, a few hundred yards on the other ſide of which, the Wye takes its origin. It enters the county a little above Bewdley, receives the Stour at Stourport, then the Salwarp, out of which, and the adjacent canal, it has the overflowings of the ſalt ſprings; ſoon afterwards the tribute of the Beverborn or the Otter River, there being formerly great numbers of thoſe animals in that ſmall ſtream. Paſſing then under the pleaſant ſeat of Hallow, and adding conſiderably by its meandring courſe to the fine views from that place, as well as the different elegant manſions on Henwick Hill, it approaches the city of Worceſter in a fine broad ſtream.

This river is particularly noticed for three ſorts of fiſh, viz. ſalmon, ſhad, and lamprey and lampern; the firſt was formerly ſo plentiful here, as well as in many other parts of the kingdom, that children when put apprentices were not to be obliged to eat it more than twice a week.

The Lamprey, which Linnæus calls *Petromyzon Marinus*, is the lamprey of this river and ſeveral others: it quits the ſea and comes up into freſh water in the ſpring; it is eaſily known by its ſize, being often three or four pounds weight, and is eſteemed a delicious diſh, though unwholeſome if eaten in great quantities; witneſs the death of our Henry I.

The Lampern is called *Petromyzon Fluviatilis*, becauſe this fiſh at certain ſeaſons goes to the ſea. This is the lampern of the Severn; it is more common than the preceding, conſequently cheaper and leſs eſteemed; it is about the ſize of a man's finger, and from ten to twelves inches in length. The above fiſh are found in other rivers, but none are ſo much valued as thoſe taken out of the Severn, from thence they are ſent over England, and many other parts of Europe, being eſteemed a moſt luxurious delicacy.

In a commercial point of view, the Severn is of the utmoſt importance to this city, being connected with all the northern counties by the canal going from Stourport; and by its junction with the Thames through the Stroud cut, it has an immediate connection with the capital and various other parts of the kingdom. Much notice has been taken about the propriety of

improving the navigation of this river, by means of locks, or in ſome places of collateral cuts; but the Severn ſeems to bid defiance to any improvement, and to be too rapid to admit of any reſtraint. It is navigable for veſſels of 110 tons to Gloceſter, of 80 to Tewkeſbury, of 70 to Worceſter, of 60 to Bewdley and Stourport, of 40 to Shrewſbury, and of 30 to Pool quay, though during floods it is capable of carrying veſſels of more conſiderable burthen. It has been remarked by Camden, that the Severn, elſewhere rapid, "flows ſlowly by the city, as if admiring it;" but this muſt be contradicted, as the current near the town is very rapid, and forms one continued ford from the ſite of the old bridge to below the Biſhop's Palace.

In addition to the various advantages derived from the navigation of the Severn, a more direct communication with Birmingham is intended to be opened by means of a canal, navigable for veſſels of large tonnage: part of it is finiſhed, but though the completion of this arduous labour be much retarded by the general effects of the preſent war, ſtill we may confidently hope that the iſſue of this ſpeculation will prove not only beneficial to the individuals concerned, but alſo to the commercial aggrandizement of the city of Worceſter.

ACCOUNT
OF THE
BISHOPRICK OF WORCESTER.

THIS Biſhoprick was founded by Ethelred, King of the Mercians, at the requeſt of Oſric, a petty Prince of the Mercians, anno 680, and taken out of the dioceſe of Litchfield; Tadfrith or Tadfrid being appointed the firſt Biſhop. Before that time, namely, from about 657, one Biſhop preſided over the whole kingdom of Mercia. The dioceſe was formerly of much larger extent than at preſent; Gloceſter, which belonged to it, was erected into a Biſhoprick in 1541; and the following year the King appointed a Biſhop of Briſtol, part of which dioceſe, viz. the Deanery of Briſtol, likewiſe belonged to the ſee of Worceſter.

At preſent the Biſhoprick of Worceſter contains almoſt the whole of the county, excepting a few pariſhes and chapelries in the dioceſe of Hereford; alſo about a third part of Warwickſhire, the pariſhes of Brome and Clent in Staffordſhire, and Hales-Owen in Shropſhire. It is divided into nine deaneries, in which are contained 116 rectories, 79 vicarages, 29 curacies, and 41 chapels.

The fixed rents of the Biſhoprick of Worceſter, clear of all deductions, were in the year 1699, 1302*l.* 15*s.* 4½*d.*; ſince that time they are conſider-

ably increaſed, ſo that, on the average, they may amount to about 3000*l.* per annum.

The lives of the Biſhops of this ſee, from the earlieſt periods, may be ſeen amply detailed in the *Account of the Cathedral*, by Dr. Thomas, or in the *Hiſtory and Antiquities of Worceſter*, by Val. Green, Eſq. Among its Prelates, it has been obſerved, that there has been 1 Pope, 4 Saints, 7 Lord High Chancellors, 11 Archbiſhops, 2 Lord Treaſurers, 1 Chancellor to the Queen, 1 Lord Preſident of Wales, 1 Vice Preſident, and, even by the confeſſion of the ſatirical Pope, one unſullied Mitre—the pious Dr. Hough, to whom Lord Lyttleton alludes in theſe lines:

"Good Worceſter thus ſupports his drooping age,
"Far from Court flatt'ry, far from party rage;
"He who, in youth, a tyrant's frown defy'd,
"Firm and intrepid on his country's ſide,
"Her boldeſt champion then, and now her mildeſt's pride."

THE BISHOP'S PALACE.

The Biſhop's Palace is placed in a charming ſituation on the eaſtern bank of the Severn, on a fine eminence contiguous to that river. It was ſurrounded with embattled walls, by Biſhop Giffard, had many additions made to it by ſucceeding Prelates, and was newly fronted by Biſhop Stillingfleet. The interior was much beautified in 1788, for the reception of his preſent Majeſty, and the Royal Family, whoſe reſidence, during their ſtay in this city, was at this Palace.

The ſtructure is ancient and commodious, and many parts of the old building ſtill remain, though much altered by improvements in the modern taſte. The eaſt front is neat and regular; the weſt, towards the river, is a pretty mixture of Gothic ſolemnity with works of a later date; and though modelled at different periods, has notwithſtanding many apartments furniſhed with much elegance. The gardens, which are laid out upon a gentle declivity, near to the water, command a delightful view of the Severn, and a fine range of country, terminated by the Malvern Hills, and other fine diſtant objects.

THE CATHEDRAL.

The firſt mention of this Cathedral we find in a charter of King Ethelred, in 743, where it is called Eccleſia in Monaſterio Sanctæ Mariæ; from that period little mention is made of it till the deſtruction of the city by Hardicnute's ſoldiers. Though the ravages in ſtone buildings might have been poſſibly ſoon repaired, yet notwithſtanding the care of ſucceeding Prelates in beautifying the ſtructure, external violence, or the lapſe of time, had made ſuch impreſſions upon the fabric, that in the year 1084 Biſhop Wulſtan was obliged to rebuild it from the ground; the whole of which, together with the Monaſtery, is ſaid to have been finiſhed in the ſpace of five years.

It is recorded of this pious Prelate, by William de Malmeſbury, that upon ſeeing the workmen em-

ployed in pulling down the old Church, he wept; one of his attendants expoſtulating with him, and reminding him, that he ought rather to rejoice, as he was preparing in the room of it an edifice of greater ſplendour, and more proportioned to the enlarged number of his Monks, he replied, "I "think far otherwiſe; we poor wretches deſtroy "the works of our forefathers, only to get praiſe to "ourſelves: that happy age of holy men knew not "how to build ſtately churches, but under any roof "they offered themſelves living temples unto God, "and, by their examples, excited thoſe under "their care to do the ſame; but we, on the con-"trary, neglecting the care of ſouls, labour to heap "up ſtones."

Though this Cathedral ſuffered conſiderably from repeated fires, yet as, after the Norman conqueſt, moſt ſcientific improvements were made by the Eccleſiaſtics, we find that the reparations of this noble fabric were generally conducted with great ſkill by the various Biſhops.

Upon the death of King John, (who, as the ancient annaliſts ſtate, was buried A. D. 1216, "in the "middle of the choir of this Church, before the "high altar, between the Saints Oſwald and Wul-"ſtan,") we find that the liberties and privileges granted to this Church were very conſiderably augmented.

About this period, it was cuſtomary for our Monarchs to paſs the holy time of Chriſtmas in ſome of

their great cities, and this they did not only to ſatisfy their own private devotions, but alſo, by their example, to inſpire the public with a greater reverence for the holy ceremonies of religion. In 1158, King Henry II. kept his Chriſtmas here, as Henry I. had done before him, and held here the great aſſembly of the nation, being attended in the Cathedral with all the dignity and ſplendour of royalty: he ſat during the time of divine ſervice with his crown on his head, as the Kings in thoſe days were uſed to do at ſolemn feaſts; but the ceremony finiſhed, he placed it on the altar, as a ſign of his humility, ſaying, "that God alone was worthy of "the crown." This act ſeemed to proceed from a real and ſincere motive, for it is recorded that he never wore it afterwards.

Soon after this period, as Camden relates, it was newly fronted from the foundation, and ſoon after the tower was rebuilt. In 1301, Biſhop Giffard, who was Lord Chancellor of England, beautified the pillars of the choir and chapels, and aiſles ſurrounding, by interlaying ſmall pillars of grey marble faſtened together with rings of copper, gilt. Between 1217 and 27, Biſhop Cobham vaulted the north aiſle of the Church, and Biſhop Wakefield afterwards lengthened the body of it, by the addition of two arches of different forms to the weſt end, and built the beautiful north porch.

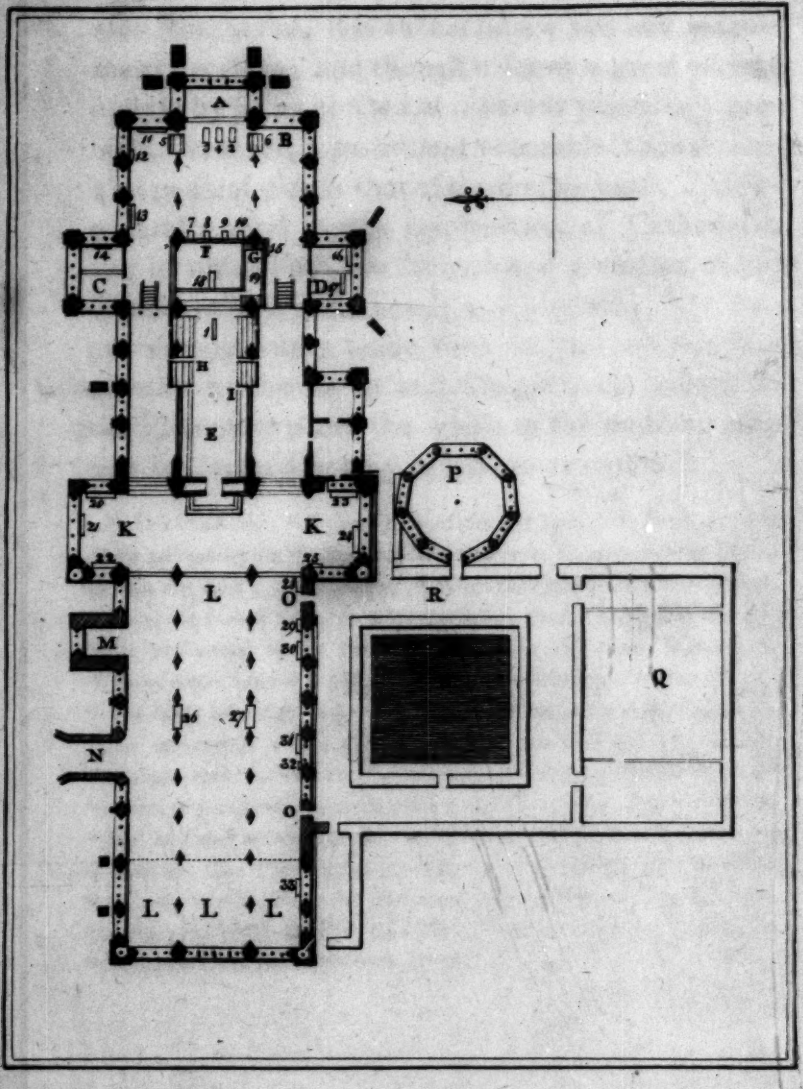
From this time we find little remarkable, till the civil wars during the reign of Charles I. Worceſter

being at that time taken by the Parliamentary army, the Cathedral ſuffered greatly.*

Although this Cathedral has undergone conſiderable mutilations, it is at this time a fair and magnificent ſtructure; and though it ſhews a great variety of ſtyle by being erected at different periods, it preſents, however, a grand and venerable appearance. The general plan is that of the double croſs, a mode generally uſed in the conſtruction of Cathedrals, and in which both the ſtrength and grandeur of the Gothic taſte are eminently conſpicuous. The improvements lately made both in the interior and exterior by the Dean and Chapter, do honour to their liberality; and the whole of the building may now be deemed worthy of minute attention.

* An extract from "A ſhort View of the late Trouble in England," ſaid to be written by Sir William Dugdale, may ſerve to convey ſome idea of of what was done in the Cathedral. "When their whole army from London, "under the Earl of Eſſex, came to Worceſter, the firſt thing they did was, "the profanation of the Cathedral, deſtroying the organ, breaking in "pieces divers beautiful windows, wherein the foundation of that Church "was lively hiſtorified with painted glaſs; and barbarouſly defacing divers "fair monuments of the dead. And, as if this were not enough, they "brought their horſes into the body of the Church, keeping fires and "courts of guard therein, making uſe of the quires and ſide aiſles, with the "ſtout, in a moſt indecent manner. Alſo, to make their wickedneſs the more "complete, they rifled the Library with the records and evidences of the "Church, tore in pieces the Bibles and ſervice books pertaining to the "quire, putting the ſurplices and other veſtments upon their dragooners, "who rode about the ſtreets with them."

BRITISH
18 AP 68
MUSEUM



ICHNOGRAPHY of the CATHEDRAL.

REFERENCES TO THE PLAN OF THE CATHEDRAL.

DIMENSIONS.

	Feet.
Length, from east to west	394
——— of the Choir	120
Breadth of the Nave and Aisles	78
Heighth of the Roof of the Choir	64

PLAN.

A. Our Lady's Chapel.
B. Consistory Court.
C. Bishop's Chapel.
D. Dean's Chapel.
E. Choir.
F. Communion Table.
G. Prince Arthur's Chapel.
H. Pulpit.
I. Bishop's Throne.
K. Great Cross Aisle.
L. Nave, with the side Aisle.
M. Jesus Chapel, & the new Font.
N. Principal Entrance or Porch.
OO. Entrances from the Cloisters.

MONUMENTS.

1. King John.
2. St. Oswald.
3. St. Wulstan.
4. King John, Cenotaph.
5. Bishop Thornborough.
6. Dean Eedes.
7. Bishop Gauden.
8. ——— Stillingfleet.
9. ——— Fleetwood.
10. ——— Blandford.
11 Margaret Rae.
12. Countess of Middleton.
13. Sir James Beauchamp.
14. Canon Henry Bright.
15. Countess of Surrey.
16. Sir Robert Harcourt.
17. Sir Griffith Rice and Lady.
18. Duke Hamilton.
19. Prince Arthur.
20. Bishop Hough.
21. Dean St. John.
22. Judge Street.
23. Bishop Maddox.
24. ——— Johnson.
25. Mary Hall.
26. Sir John Beauchamp & Lady.
27. Robt. Wilde, Esq. & Lady.
28. Bishop Thomas.
29. James Johnstone, jun. M.D.
30. Friar Baskerville.
31. Judge Littleton.
32. Sir Thomas Littleton & Lady.
33. Susanna Warren.

MONUMENTS.

The following Monuments appear moſt worthy of attention.

At the upper end of the Choir is a noble Monument of King John, whoſe body was conveyed hither from Newark, by the Earl of Pembroke, and was ſurrounded with gilt paliſadoes, until deſtroyed by Cromwell's ſoldiers during the great rebellion; his effigy is on the tomb, crowned; in his right hand a ſceptre, in his left a ſword, whoſe point is received in the mouth of a lion, couchant, at his feet. He died Oct. 19, 1215, aged 57, of his reign 18.

This is the moſt ancient tomb extant, ſays Dr. Thomas, in England, at leaſt of all the lineal deſcendants of his preſent Majeſty, from the time of William the Conqueror; that of Henry I. which is the only one known of an earlier age, lies involved in that chaos of ruins, the Abbey of Reading. We may date the time of its erection to about the middle of the 13th century, and was, according to Mr. Walpole, the work of Cavallino, an Italian Sculptor, patronized by Edward I. and might poſſibly, as Mr. Gough aſſerts, have been the portrait of that Monarch.

The general accepted opinion concerning this tomb was, that it was only a ſarcophagus erected to the memory of that Monarch, and that his body was buried in another part of the Cathedral; but in proceeding in the repairs, the 20th of July, 1797, the following remarkable circumſtance occurred.

The Royal China Manufactory, of which Meſſrs. Flight and Barr are the ſole proprietors, is ſituate in Palace Row, near the banks of the Severn, and was formerly a large manſion-houſe, but is now converted into a buſy ſcene of art and induſtry. The building is extenſive and elegant, and the whole of the work is well worth the inſpection of the ingenious traveller. To enter into a minute account of the various proceſſes, &c. of the work, would be, certainly, ſuperfluous, as any reſpectable perſon, on application at No. 45, High-ſtreet, may have cards of admiſſion to view the manufactory.

The following extract from an account by an anonymous writer, may aſſiſt in aſcertaining the ſuperior excellency of the Worceſter China:—"The body "of the Worceſter ware far exceeds every other in "fineneſs and whiteneſs, in which it almoſt, if not "altogether, equals even the fineſt porcelain of "China itſelf, and is found to be much harder and "more durable than the body of any other porce-"lain whatever. The glazing of it never nips, "breaks off, or parts from the body, except by ex-"treme violence, and then it diſcovers no brown-"neſs, ſuch as is often ſeen in the ordinary Chineſe, "and almoſt always, after wear, in the other kinds "of porcelain: it is alſo perfectly clear and tranſpa-"rent, which is a quality that almoſt peculiarly "diſtinguiſhes it from the others of European ma-"nufacture."

But, what more particularly attracts notice is, the ſuperior ſtrength and beauty of colour of the Wor-

ceſter porcelain; for, it is to be obſerved, that the Chineſe painters, in perſpective, and more eſpecially thoſe who meddle with human figures, are ſorry proficients; whereas in this manufacture, the moſt liberal encouragement is given to ingenious painters in emblematical compoſitions, landſcapes, &c. Some years before the preſent war, great importations of this article were made from France, but happily Britiſh induſtry has now rendered them unneceſſary; for the latter productions of this manufactory have been deemed ſo ſuperior in beauty and quality, that foreign orders form at the preſent period great part of the concern, and are rapidly increaſing. To his preſent Majeſty, alſo, Meſſrs. Flight and Barr are under the higheſt obligations, for his gracious condeſcenſion to patronize this undertaking; and too much praiſe cannot be given to the patriotic and enlightened taſte of the nobility and gentry, who, by liberal encouragement, have rendered this manufactory not only the ſupport of many ingenious artiſts, but alſo an ornament to the kingdom at large.

Another manufactory ſince the above, has been eſtabliſhed under the firm of Chamberlain and Co. in Diglis, whoſe retail warehouſe is alſo in the High-ſtreet. Its productions are in high eſtimation, as the increaſing demands which continue to be made for their articles evidently evince.

HOP TRADE.

The Hop Market, ſituate almoſt in the centre of the city, is a large and regular pile of building, the interior of which forms an extenſive quadrangle, ſurrounded by well-built warehouſes; the rents of which, under the direction of the Guardians of the reſpective pariſhes in the city, are applied to the laudable purpoſe of ſupporting the Houſe of Induſtry. The Hop trade in this city is conducted on an extenſive ſcale, and, during the ſeaſon, is the moſt conſiderable market in the kingdom for that eſſential article; three-fifths of the produce of the ſurrounding plantations being, on an average, brought thither for ſale. The number of pockets ſold for the laſt twelve years may tend to ſhew the regular ſupply this market affords.

Years.	Pockets.	Years.	Pockets.
1787 -------	16,064	1793 -------	36,455
1788 -------	21,486	1794 -------	29,686
1789 -------	13,423	1795 -------	19,607
1790 -------	22,325	1796 -------	21,519
1791 -------	25,437	1797 -------	21,319
1792 -------	27,735	1798 -------	16,370

So that the average may be ſtated at about 23,000 pockets per annum, the price of which is ſo very precarious, that it would be futile to make any calculation on that head.

DISTILLERY.

The Diſtillery is a large concern, paying, according to the information I have received, about 700*l.* a week duty, and, from the excellent manner in which it is conducted, is rapidly increaſing. The diſtillation of Britiſh ſpirits in this kingdom, is a ſpecies of commerce that has often experienced the public cenſure, from an opinion of its great conſumption of grain—which is, however, an erroneous one, ſince, after the ſpirit is extracted, the refuſe will fatten nearly as many oxen and hogs as the ſame quantity of grain would do in its original ſtate, and a revenue ariſes to government of 1,200,000*l.* per annum. The farmer is likewiſe benefitted, as the manure from the hogs is the beſt that can be procured for the purpoſes of agriculture; and, the diſtillers working in the winter ſeaſon only, he is not deprived of labourers at that period of the year when he ſtands moſt in need of their ſervices. Upon a fair review of all the circumſtances, every unprejudiced perſon muſt acknowledge it to be a kind of commerce that, far from deſerving the public cenſure, ought to meet with its encouragement.

A FEW years ago the Carpet Manufactory formed a very conſiderable object in the trade of this city; but as commerce is very fickle and capricious, we find little done in that branch of buſineſs at the preſent period.

PUBLIC WALKS, &c.

THE walks near the city of Worceſter are numerous, and placed in a variety of favourite ſituations; that which may be deemed the principal, lies parallel with the Foregate-ſtreet, called Sanſome-fields Walk, ſhaded on each ſide by ſome fine trees: adjoining are ſeveral foot-paths through rich paſture grounds, for which the public are indebted to the taſte and liberality of Sir Charles Trubſhaw Withers.

There are many other ſelect walks, ſuch as near Perry Wood, the ſite of the engagement between King Charles and Cromwell, from whence is a fine view of the city, and as rich a proſpect, of the extenſive kind, as any in the county. Another over Rainbow Hill, or in the Moors near Pitchcroft, where the annual races are held, are cloſe to the city; with various beautiful walks in many directions on the margin of the river, one of which, towards the ſouth, is remarkably pleaſant, extending unto the plantations made by the late J. Berwick, Eſq. where the Teme forms a junction with the Severn. In addition to theſe, the Foregate-ſtreet itſelf, by being well paved, and ſufficiently broad, ſo as to admit of a free circulation of air, ſeems to be generally reſorted to as a faſhionable *promenade*.

During the ſummer months there are opened on the weſt ſide of the Severn ſome pleaſant gardens, called the Porto Bello Gardens, which, by being

placed on an eminence contiguous to the banks of the river, command a beautiful view of Worceſter and the circumjacent country. Great pains have been taken to bring them to their preſent flouriſhing ſtate; but as much company frequent them, it will doubtleſs anſwer the expectations of the proprietor. A boat is always ready at the ferry. There are alſo many other public places of amuſement at eaſy diſtances from the city, to enumerate which ſingly, may, perhaps, be deemed ſuperfluous.

THE SEVERN.

The River Severn, from which Worceſter derives ſuch conſiderable advantages, takes its name from *ſabi* and *ſabrin*, ſandy, from the muddineſs of the water after rain; in Latin, *Sabrina*; in Welſh, *Ha au rian*, ſignifying the queen or chief river. It riſes in Plinlymmon Mountain, in Montgomeryſhire, a few hundred yards on the other ſide of which, the Wye takes its origin. It enters the county a little above Bewdley, receives the Stour at Stourport, then the Salwarp, out of which, and the adjacent canal, it has the overflowings of the ſalt ſprings; ſoon afterwards the tribute of the Beverborn or the Otter River, there being formerly great numbers of thoſe animals in that ſmall ſtream. Paſſing then under the pleaſant ſeat of Hallow, and adding conſiderably by its meandring courſe to the fine views from that place, as well as the different elegant manſions on Henwick Hill, it approaches the city of Worceſter in a fine broad ſtream.

This river is particularly noticed for three ſorts of fiſh, viz. ſalmon, ſhad, and lamprey and lampern; the firſt was formerly ſo plentiful here, as well as in many other parts of the kingdom, that children when put apprentices were not to be obliged to eat it more than twice a week.

The Lamprey, which Linnæus calls *Petromyzon Marinus*, is the lamprey of this river and ſeveral others: it quits the ſea and comes up into freſh water in the ſpring; it is eaſily known by its ſize, being often three or four pounds weight, and is eſteemed a delicious diſh, though unwholeſome if eaten in great quantities; witneſs the death of our Henry I.

The Lampern is called *Petromyzon Fluviatilis*, becauſe this fiſh at certain ſeaſons goes to the ſea. This is the lampern of the Severn; it is more common than the preceding, conſequently cheaper and leſs eſteemed; it is about the ſize of a man's finger, and from ten to twelves inches in length. The above fiſh are found in other rivers, but none are ſo much valued as thoſe taken out of the Severn, from thence they are ſent over England, and many other parts of Europe, being eſteemed a moſt luxurious delicacy.

In a commercial point of view, the Severn is of the utmoſt importance to this city, being connected with all the northern counties by the canal going from Stourport; and by its junction with the Thames through the Stroud cut, it has an immediate connection with the capital and various other parts of the kingdom. Much notice has been taken about the propriety of

improving the navigation of this river, by means of locks, or in ſome places of collateral cuts; but the Severn ſeems to bid defiance to any improvement, and to be too rapid to admit of any reſtraint. It is navigable for veſſels of 110 tons to Gloceſter, of 80 to Tewkeſbury, of 70 to Worceſter, of 60 to Bewdley and Stourport, of 40 to Shrewſbury, and of 30 to Pool quay, though during floods it is capable of carrying veſſels of more conſiderable burthen. It has been remarked by Camden, that the Severn, elſewhere rapid, "flows ſlowly by the city, as if admiring it;" but this muſt be contradicted, as the current near the town is very rapid, and forms one continued ford from the ſite of the old bridge to below the Biſhop's Palace.

In addition to the various advantages derived from the navigation of the Severn, a more direct communication with Birmingham is intended to be opened by means of a canal, navigable for veſſels of large tonnage: part of it is finiſhed, but though the completion of this arduous labour be much retarded by the general effects of the preſent war, ſtill we may confidently hope that the iſſue of this ſpeculation will prove not only beneficial to the individuals concerned, but alſo to the commercial aggrandizement of the city of Worceſter.

ACCOUNT
OF THE
BISHOPRICK OF WORCESTER.

THIS Biſhoprick was founded by Ethelred, King of the Mercians, at the requeſt of Oſric, a petty Prince of the Mercians, anno 680, and taken out of the dioceſe of Litchfield; Tadfrith or Tadfrid being appointed the firſt Biſhop. Before that time, namely, from about 657, one Biſhop preſided over the whole kingdom of Mercia. The dioceſe was formerly of much larger extent than at preſent; Gloceſter, which belonged to it, was erected into a Biſhoprick in 1541; and the following year the King appointed a Biſhop of Briſtol, part of which dioceſe, viz. the Deanery of Briſtol, likewiſe belonged to the ſee of Worceſter.

At preſent the Biſhoprick of Worceſter contains almoſt the whole of the county, excepting a few pariſhes and chapelries in the dioceſe of Hereford; alſo about a third part of Warwickſhire, the pariſhes of Brome and Clent in Staffordſhire, and Hales-Owen in Shropſhire. It is divided into nine deaneries, in which are contained 116 rectories, 79 vicarages, 29 curacies, and 41 chapels.

The fixed rents of the Biſhoprick of Worceſter, clear of all deductions, were in the year 1699, 1302*l.* 15*s.* 4½*d.*; ſince that time they are conſider-

ably increaſed, ſo that, on the average, they may amount to about 3000*l.* per annum.

The lives of the Biſhops of this ſee, from the earlieſt periods, may be ſeen amply detailed in the *Account of the Cathedral*, by Dr. Thomas, or in the *Hiſtory and Antiquities of Worceſter*, by Val. Green, Eſq. Among its Prelates, it has been obſerved, that there has been 1 Pope, 4 Saints, 7 Lord High Chancellors, 11 Archbiſhops, 2 Lord Treaſurers, 1 Chancellor to the Queen, 1 Lord Preſident of Wales, 1 Vice Preſident, and, even by the confeſſion of the ſatirical Pope, one unſullied Mitre—the pious Dr. Hough, to whom Lord Lyttleton alludes in theſe lines:

"Good Worceſter thus ſupports his drooping age,
"Far from Court flatt'ry, far from party rage;
"He who, in youth, a tyrant's frown defy'd,
"Firm and intrepid on his country's ſide,
"Her boldeſt champion then, and now her mildeſt's pride."

THE BISHOP'S PALACE.

The Biſhop's Palace is placed in a charming ſituation on the eaſtern bank of the Severn, on a fine eminence contiguous to that river. It was ſurrounded with embattled walls, by Biſhop Giffard, had many additions made to it by ſucceeding Prelates, and was newly fronted by Biſhop Stillingfleet. The interior was much beautified in 1788, for the reception of his preſent Majeſty, and the Royal Family, whoſe reſidence, during their ſtay in this city, was at this Palace.

The ſtructure is ancient and commodious, and many parts of the old building ſtill remain, though much altered by improvements in the modern taſte. The eaſt front is neat and regular; the weſt, towards the river, is a pretty mixture of Gothic ſolemnity with works of a later date; and though modelled at different periods, has notwithſtanding many apartments furniſhed with much elegance. The gardens, which are laid out upon a gentle declivity, near to the water, command a delightful view of the Severn, and a fine range of country, terminated by the Malvern Hills, and other fine diſtant objects.

THE CATHEDRAL.

The firſt mention of this Cathedral we find in a charter of King Ethelred, in 743, where it is called Eccleſia in Monaſterio Sanctæ Mariæ; from that period little mention is made of it till the deſtruction of the city by Hardicnute's ſoldiers. Though the ravages in ſtone buildings might have been poſſibly ſoon repaired, yet notwithſtanding the care of ſucceeding Prelates in beautifying the ſtructure, external violence, or the lapſe of time, had made ſuch impreſſions upon the fabric, that in the year 1084 Biſhop Wulſtan was obliged to rebuild it from the ground; the whole of which, together with the Monaſtery, is ſaid to have been finiſhed in the ſpace of five years.

It is recorded of this pious Prelate, by William de Malmeſbury, that upon ſeeing the workmen em-

ployed in pulling down the old Church, he wept; one of his attendants expoſtulating with him, and reminding him, that he ought rather to rejoice, as he was preparing in the room of it an edifice of greater ſplendour, and more proportioned to the enlarged number of his Monks, he replied, "I "think far otherwiſe; we poor wretches deſtroy "the works of our forefathers, only to get praiſe to "ourſelves: that happy age of holy men knew not "how to build ſtately churches, but under any roof "they offered themſelves living temples unto God, "and, by their examples, excited thoſe under "their care to do the ſame; but we, on the con-"trary, neglecting the care of ſouls, labour to heap "up ſtones."

Though this Cathedral ſuffered conſiderably from repeated fires, yet as, after the Norman conqueſt, moſt ſcientific improvements were made by the Eccleſiaſtics, we find that the reparations of this noble fabric were generally conducted with great ſkill by the various Biſhops.

Upon the death of King John, (who, as the ancient annaliſts ſtate, was buried A. D. 1216, "in the "middle of the choir of this Church, before the "high altar, between the Saints Oſwald and Wul-"ſtan,") we find that the liberties and privileges granted to this Church were very conſiderably augmented.

About this period, it was cuſtomary for our Monarchs to paſs the holy time of Chriſtmas in ſome of

their great cities, and this they did not only to ſatisfy their own private devotions, but alſo, by their example, to inſpire the public with a greater reverence for the holy ceremonies of religion. In 1158, King Henry II. kept his Chriſtmas here, as Henry I. had done before him, and held here the great aſſembly of the nation, being attended in the Cathedral with all the dignity and ſplendour of royalty: he ſat during the time of divine ſervice with his crown on his head, as the Kings in thoſe days were uſed to do at ſolemn feaſts; but the ceremony finiſhed, he placed it on the altar, as a ſign of his humility, ſaying, "that God alone was worthy of "the crown." This act ſeemed to proceed from a real and ſincere motive, for it is recorded that he never wore it afterwards.

Soon after this period, as Camden relates, it was newly fronted from the foundation, and ſoon after the tower was rebuilt. In 1301, Biſhop Giffard, who was Lord Chancellor of England, beautified the pillars of the choir and chapels, and aiſles ſurrounding, by interlaying ſmall pillars of grey marble faſtened together with rings of copper, gilt. Between 1217 and 27, Biſhop Cobham vaulted the north aiſle of the Church, and Biſhop Wakefield afterwards lengthened the body of it, by the addition of two arches of different forms to the weſt end, and built the beautiful north porch.

From this time we find little remarkable, till the civil wars during the reign of Charles I. Worceſter

being at that time taken by the Parliamentary army, the Cathedral ſuffered greatly.*

Although this Cathedral has undergone conſiderable mutilations, it is at this time a fair and magnificent ſtructure; and though it ſhews a great variety of ſtyle by being erected at different periods, it preſents, however, a grand and venerable appearance. The general plan is that of the double croſs, a mode generally uſed in the conſtruction of Cathedrals, and in which both the ſtrength and grandeur of the Gothic taſte are eminently conſpicuous. The improvements lately made both in the interior and exterior by the Dean and Chapter, do honour to their liberality; and the whole of the building may now be deemed worthy of minute attention.

* An extract from "A ſhort View of the late Trouble in England," ſaid to be written by Sir William Dugdale, may ſerve to convey ſome idea of of what was done in the Cathedral. "When their whole army from London, "under the Earl of Eſſex, came to Worceſter, the firſt thing they did was, "the profanation of the Cathedral, deſtroying the organ, breaking in "pieces divers beautiful windows, wherein the foundation of that Church "was lively hiſtorified with painted glaſs; and barbarouſly defacing divers "fair monuments of the dead. And, as if this were not enough, they "brought their horſes into the body of the Church, keeping fires and "courts of guard therein, making uſe of the quires and ſide aiſles, with the "font, in a moſt indecent manner. Alſo, to make their wickedneſs the more "complete, they rifled the Library with the records and evidences of the "Church, tore in pieces the Bibles and ſervice books pertaining to the "quire, putting the ſurplices and other veſtments upon their dragooners, "who rode about the ſtreets with them."

REFERENCES TO THE PLAN OF THE CATHEDRAL.

DIMENSIONS.

	Feet.
Length, from eaſt to weſt	394
—— of the Choir	120
Breadth of the Nave and Aiſles	78
Heighth of the Roof of the Choir	64

PLAN.

A. Our Lady's Chapel.
B. Conſiſtory Court.
C. Biſhop's Chapel.
D. Dean's Chapel.
E. Choir.
F. Communion Table.
G. Prince Arthur's Chapel.
H. Pulpit.
I. Biſhop's Throne.
K. Great Croſs Aiſle.
L. Nave, with the ſide Aiſle.
M. Jeſus Chapel, & the new Font.
N. Principal Entrance or Porch.
OO. Entrances from the Cloiſters.

MONUMENTS.

1. King John.
2. St. Oſwald.
3. St. Wulſtan.
4. King John, Cenotaph.
5. Biſhop Thornborough.
6. Dean Eedes.
7. Biſhop Gauden.
8. ——— Stillingfleet.
9. ——— Fleetwood.
10. ——— Blandford.
11 Margaret Rae.
12. Counteſs of Middleton.
13. Sir James Beauchamp.
14. Canon Henry Bright.
15. Counteſs of Surrey.
16. Sir Robert Harcourt.
17. Sir Griffith Rice and Lady.
18. Duke Hamilton.
19. Prince Arthur.
20. Biſhop Hough.
21. Dean St. John.
22. Judge Street.
23. Biſhop Maddox.
24. ——— Johnſon.
25. Mary Hall.
26. Sir John Beauchamp & Lady.
27. Robt. Wilde, Eſq. & Lady.
28. Biſhop Thomas.
29. James Johnſtone, jun. M.D.
30. Friar Baſkerville.
31. Judge Littleton.
32. Sir Thomas Littleton & Lady.
33. Suſanna Warren.

MONUMENTS.

The following Monuments appear moſt worthy of attention.

At the upper end of the Choir is a noble Monument of King John, whoſe body was conveyed hither from Newark, by the Earl of Pembroke, and was ſurrounded with gilt paliſadoes, until deſtroyed by Cromwell's ſoldiers during the great rebellion; his effigy is on the tomb, crowned; in his right hand a ſceptre, in his left a ſword, whoſe point is received in the mouth of a lion, couchant, at his feet. He died Oct. 19, 1215, aged 57, of his reign 18.

This is the moſt ancient tomb extant, ſays Dr. Thomas, in England, at leaſt of all the lineal deſcendants of his preſent Majeſty, from the time of William the Conqueror; that of Henry I. which is the only one known of an earlier age, lies involved in that chaos of ruins, the Abbey of Reading. We may date the time of its erection to about the middle of the 13th century, and was, according to Mr. Walpole, the work of Cavallino, an Italian Sculptor, patronized by Edward I. and might poſſibly, as Mr. Gough aſſerts, have been the portrait of that Monarch.

The general accepted opinion concerning this tomb was, that it was only a ſarcophagus erected to the memory of that Monarch, and that his body was buried in another part of the Cathedral; but in proceeding in the repairs, the 20th of July, 1797, the following remarkable circumſtance occurred.

" The tomb which ſtands in the centre of the " middle aiſle, near the Chancel, to commemorate " the interment of King John, was ſuppoſed not to " cover his remains; it was, therefore, propoſed " to remove it to a more convenient place, but, to " the aſtoniſhment of the workmen, a ſtone coffin " was diſcovered at the bottom, level with the floor, " which, on carefully examining, was found to " contain the remains of the King. From the great " length of time that the body had been depoſited, " (in 1216,) nothing but conjectural ideas could be " formed as to the veſtments, &c.; part of the robe " was firm in its texture, but of what colour could " not be aſcertained. What was diſcovered of the " body appeared to lie nearly in the ſame poſition " as the figure at the top of the tomb-ſtone, *(which " is engraven in Stukeley's Itinerary,)* and, from the " length of the coffin, meaſured 5 feet 6½ inches. " Part of a ſword was lying by his left ſide, which " time had mouldered, and the leather ſheath was " nearly in the ſame ſtate: the moſt perfect part was " towards the bottom of the legs and feet, on " which appeared a kind of half-boot."

One point aſcertained is, that the body was certainly depoſited there, and not in the more eaſtern part of the Church, as was ſuppoſed; and the very extraordinary circumſtance of there being no memorandum or record of the place of interment in the archives of the Cathedral, is now obviated. The tomb is to remain ſacred to the aſhes of the King, and will no doubt be preſerved with additional care

and attention. Much praiſe is due to the polite conduct of the Dean and Chapter, who gave orders that the curioſity of the people ſhould be gratified, as far as could be done conſiſtently with ſafety; but the concourſe from all parts becoming ſo great, it was deemed proper to cloſe the tomb again much ſooner than was intended.

On the weſt wall of Our Lady's Chapel are four fine monuments of Biſhops Blandford, Fleetwood, Stillingfleet, and Gauden. The laſt has the head of that Prelate, in a ſmall nich, as large as life, having in his right hand a book, perhaps, meant for the *Icon Baſilike*. As Biſhop Stillingfleet's epitaph was written by Dr. Bentley, it may not be improper to inſert a part of it:

Dum rebus mortalibus interfuit,
Et ſanctitate morum et oris ſtaturæque dignitate,
Et conſummatæ eruditionis laude,
Undique venerandus.
Cui in humanioribus litteris critici, in divinis theologi,
In recondita hiſtoria antiquarii, in ſcientiis philoſophi,
In legum peritia juris conſulti, in civili prudentia politici,
In eloquentia univerſi,
Faſces ultro miſerunt.
Major unus in his omnibus quam alii in ſingulis,
Ut bibliothecam ſuam cui parem orbis vix habuit,
Infra pectus omnis doctrinæ capax
Geſtaſſe integram viſus ſit.
Quod tamen nullos libros noverat meliores,
Quam quos ipſe multos et immortales edidit,
Eccleſiæ Anglicanæ defenſor ſemper invictus.

On the north ſide of the nave is the tomb of Sir John Beauchamp, of Holt Caſtle, ſome miles from Worceſter, on which is his effigies in complete ar-

mour, with that of his lady. He received the honour of Knighthood from the hand of Richard II. in Scotland; he was afterwards, by the ſame Monarch, created Baron Beauchamp, of Kidderminſter, in this county, being the firſt Peer, according to Selden, who ever received the honour of an Engliſh Barony by patent. But he did not long enjoy his preferment; for, appearing in arms in London, he was attainted of treaſon and beheaded, leaving a remarkable inſtance of the ſudden change to which worldly happineſs is ſubject. He was the laſt deſcendant of the Beauchamps, of Holt.

On the ſouth ſide of the choir is the Chapel of Prince Arthur, elder brother of Henry VIII.; and contiguous to the wall is his tomb, of fine marble. It is the moſt curiouſly variegated work in ſtone to be ſeen in the whole Cathedral, variouſly ornamented with images, the arms of England and other devices, beautifully carved; and the whole may perhaps be deemed the moſt elegant ſpecimen of the Gothic ſtyle in Britain. The fretted arched roof is curious; and round the verge of the top is the following inſcription:

Here lyeth Prince Arthur, the firſt begotten ſonne of the right renowned King Henrie the Seaventhe, which noble Prince departed out of this tranſitory life att the Caſtell of Ludlow, the ſeaventeenthe yeare of his Father's reygne, and in the yeare of our Lord God one thouſande five hundred and two.

Under the fifth window in the ſouth aiſle is a plain tomb over the renowned Judge Littleton, a Juſtice

of the Common Pleas in the reign of Edward IV. On it is the following inſcription:

Hic jacet corpus
THOMÆ LITTLETON, de Frankly,
Militis de Balneo,
Et unus Juſticiariorum de Communi Banco,
Qui obiit 23 Aug. A. D. 1481.

On a ſmall braſs on the top, was a repreſentation of the Judge in his robes, and theſe words iſſuing from the mouth:

Fili Dei miſerere mei;

but this was taken by Cromwell's ſoldiers during the civil wars. On the floor near the monument is the following conciſe, but elegant, ſentiment, which was appointed to be thereon inſcribed by his expreſs will:

Let no man ſlight his mortalitie.

Beneath the ſteps of the ſouth door lies the Rev. Dr. Thomas, author of the Survey of the Cathedral, &c.

The following inſcription is to the memory of Dr. J. Johnſon, ſon of Dr. Johnſon, of this city: it is from the claſſical pen of Dr. Parr.

JACOBO JOHNSON, jun. M. D.
Qui in hac urbe per ix annos,
Artem Medicam exercuit,
Et dum ægris in carcere incluſis
Opem ferebat,
Febris ibi ſævientis contagione correptus,
Deceſſit xvii Kalend. Sept.
Anno Chriſti M,DCC,LXXXIII.

Before the high altar lies the body of William the gallant Duke of Hamilton, ſlain at the battle of

Worceſter. The wound which occaſioned his death was received in one of his legs, a little below the knee, by a ſlug ſhot, which ſhattered the bone ſo fatally as wholly to diſable him from keeping the field, and he was forced to retire into the town, where he fell into the enemy's hands. He was lodged at the Commandery, and Cromwell ſent his own Surgeon, Trappam, to wait upon him, who aſſured him there was no hazard. Two days after, Sir Robert Cunningham, the King's Phyſician, being found among the priſoners, was brought to him, who told him, that from the great loſs of blood, nothing but an amputation afforded a probability of his recovery. Trappam's opinion had, however, ſo encouraged the Duke to ſave ſo ſevere an operation, that death alone could extinguiſh. At length, finding his ſtrength fail, and feeling himſelf gradually declining, he ſent his laſt thoughts to his lady, written with his own hand, dated Worceſter, Sept. 8, 1651, and a ſhort time after expired, in the 31ſt year of his age.

At the eaſt end of the north aiſle is erected a very beautiful monument to the memory of Mrs. M. Rae, who died in 1770, aged 29. It is compoſed of various coloured marble, and a profile buſt is placed on the top in an oval tablet.

In the ſouth tranſept is a neat monument of Biſhop Johnſon, with a moſt excellent buſt by Nollekins, eſteemed a very great likeneſs: part of the epitaph underneath delineates the character of this worthy Prelate:

Ingenio culto et urbano
Animo temperato et æquabili,
Summa in ſuos pietate et munificentia,
Studio in amicos ardentiſſimo,
Benevolentia erga omnes
Inſignis.

A little to the left is a magnificent monument of Biſhop Maddox, a venerable Prelate, equally illuſtrious for his various writings, as for being a patron of merit, and a zealous ſupporter of every uſeful charity. Upon it is a figure of conjugal fidelity, as large as life; ſhe is leaning, in a melancholy poſture, with one hand reſting upon an hymeneal torch inverted; in a compartment under is a piece of ſculpture repreſenting the parable of the good Samaritan.

There is alſo a very fine monument, ſaid to be that of a Counteſs of Saliſbury, of whom it is fabuloufly related, that, having dropt her garter while dancing before King Edward III. at Windſor, it gave occaſion to the inſtitution of the Order. This opinion ſeems to have ariſen from the figure of a garter, incloſing a double roſe upon the tomb; but theſe relate to the houſes of York and Lancaſter, which divided the royal line long after the death of Edward III. Indeed, it is generally believed, that the lady whoſe memory this monument was deſigned to perpetuate was a Counteſs of Surry, and not of Saliſbury.

In the north tranſept is the fineſt monument this Cathedral can boaſt of. It is a ſuperb marble piece of ſculpture, erected to the memory of Dr. John Hough, Biſhop of this dioceſe, and Head of Mag-

dalen College, Oxford. He is repreſented in a recumbent poſture, his right elbow reſting on ſome books, his hands joined and raiſed in thoſe acts of devotion which his countenance ſo highly expreſſes. The drapery is inimitably fine. To the left ſtands the figure of Religion, with her book in one hand, whilſt with the other ſhe is liſting up the flowing edge of his garment, to diſplay underneath another repreſentation in miniature, where he is ſtanding before that tribunal, the High Commiſſion Court, which ejected him from his College government. Three tools of tyranny are ſeated on the bench, and a ſecretary is minuting their proceedings, whilſt this venerable Prelate, at the head of the Fellows, is making his defenſive harangue. Roubilliac has the honour of this maſterly piece of ſculpture, which is the admiration of all beholders, and the firſt in theſe parts of the kingdom.

THE ſtalls in the choir, in number fifty-two, were made in 1397, but the cornices over them are a modern work, being made of fine Iriſh oak, with abundance of carvings. The ſtone pulpit is well worth notice, being of an octagonal figure, moſt elegantly cut in the Gothic mode, having a curious repreſentation of the New Jeruſalem carved in the ſame durable material.

Over the altar is a beautiful copy of the Deſcent from the Croſs, by Reubens, which was preſented to the Chapter by Valentine Green, Eſq. F. A. S. The Biſhop's Throne is a work in the old taſte, or-

namented with a variety of emblematical devices. The organ conſiſts of nine ſtops, of which the trumpet ſtop is allowed to be the fineſt in the kingdom.

Contiguous is the Audit Houſe, the only part remaining of the ancient Priory, and which had been erected for the accommodation of ſtrangers. It is ſtill ſacred to hoſpitality, as the noble entertainments at the annual audits plainly demonſtrate. The Chapter Houſe is a large decagon, ſupported by a central pillar, in which are depoſited many curious MSS. and valuable books.

DEAN AND CHAPTER.

The revenues and manors of the ancient Priory of Worceſter were granted at the diſſolution to the Dean and Chapter by Henry VIII. whoſe foundation charter is dated Jan. 24, 1541-2, for the endowment of a Dean, ten Prebendaries, ten Minor Canons, ten Lay Clerks, ten Choriſters, two School-Maſters, forty King's Scholars, and many other inferior attendants or ſervants of the Church.

Of the ten Prebends in the Cathedral Church of Worceſter, nine are in the gift of the King, and one is annexed to the Margaret Profeſſorſhip of Divinity in Oxford Univerſity, by Act of Parliament 3d of Charles I.

COLLEGE HALL.

Towards the end of the ſouth cloiſter is the College Hall, a ſpacious and very lofty room, in which is held the triennial meeting of the three choirs of Worceſter, Hereford, and Gloceſter, and is alſo uſed

for the King's School, which was founded by Henry VIII. for 40 ſcholars. Beſides a regular preparation for the Univerſity, Muſic, Drawing, the French, Spaniſh and Italian Languages, and other faſhionable accompliſhments are taught by proper maſters. Worceſter, indeed, has been for a long time celebrated for the ſuperiority of its ſchools; accordingly at the preſent time we find the Grammar School for boys, as well as the many Boarding Schools for young ladies, in a high ſtate of reſpectability.

ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCHES.

ST. HELEN'S.

This is ſaid to be the moſt ancient Church in Worceſter, and Leland, in his Itinerary, ſtrengthens the opinion; to which he adds, "that it was a Prebend "before King Edgar's days, to the Cathedral "of Worceſter." It is ſituate contiguous to the High-ſtreet, between the Guildhall and the Cathedral, and is a Rectory in the gift of the Biſhop. The building is old and venerable; the ſtyle in which it is erected, and the viſible havock which time has made upon its exterior, are evident marks of its great antiquity. It contains eight tunable bells, remarkable for the curious inſcriptions upon them, referring to the principal victories obtained during the reign of Queen Anne.

ST. ANDREW'S,

A Vicarage in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Worceſter, is an old Church, ſuppoſed

to have been erected during the eleventh century, yet, owing to late improvements, the interior is at preſent handſome and neatly furniſhed. But the chief object worthy of notice is its beautiful ſpire, erected by one Nathaniel Wilkinſon, a native of Worceſter, where he lived as a common ſtone-maſon. It is ſuppoſed to be the moſt perfect in the kingdom, and is not only a real ornament to the city, but alſo a convincing proof of the ſkill and ingenuity of the builder. Moſt other ſpires, particularly that of Saliſbury, ſo generally admired, ſeem to terminate abruptly, when examined by the nicety of proportion; but this of St. Andrew's riſes from its baſe according to the moſt gradual and exact diminution: however, that the reader may form a more perfect idea of this beautiful piece of workmanſhip, I have ſubjoined the dimenſions, as given by the builder in 1751:

	Feet.	Inch.
The height of the Tower (part of the old Church)	90	0
——— the Spire	155	6
Diameter of the baſe of the Spire	20	0
——— under the Cap	0	6⅝

ST. PETER'S.

This is a ſmall, but neat Church, in the preſentation of the Chapter of Worceſter—the whole, particularly the tower, having been lately repaired and beautified. According to authentic records, it was founded about the year 1280, and appertained to

the Abbey of Perſhore, till the period of the diſſolution, in the time of Henry VIII.

ST. SWITHIN'S.

This Church is a Rectory, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, ſituate in Church-ſtreet; and, owing to its ruinous ſtate, was rebuilt in 1736. It is a neat and handſome ſtructure, the interior elegantly arranged, and is the only Church in the city, beſides the Cathedral, which has an organ and chimes, the former of which was the gift of William Swift, Eſq.

ST. NICHOLAS,

A Rectory, in the patronage of the Biſhop of Worceſter, placed in a conſpicuous ſituation on the north-eaſt ſide of the Croſs. It is a handſome, well-built ſtructure, in the modern ſtile, and the tower is much admired for the various modes of architecture uſed in its conſtruction.

ST. ALBAN'S, ST. MICHAEL'S, AND ST. MARTIN'S,

Are inconſiderable: the former in the gift of the Biſhop, the other two of the Dean and Chapter. They are moſtly old buildings, except St. Martin's, which has been rebuilt in the modern manner.

ALL SAINTS.

This is the moſt populous pariſh within the precincts of the city. The living is in the gift of the Crown. The old Church was ſo much damaged during the civil wars, that in the year 1742 it was

found requiſite to pull it down, and rebuild it. It is ſituate nearly at the bottom of the Broad-ſtreet, is well pewed, has good light, and makes a decent and handſome appearance. This Rectory was augmented in 1765, to the amount of 800*l.* whereof 600*l.* was given by Queen Anne's bounty, 100*l.* by the pariſh, and 100*l.* by the Rector.

ST. CLEMENT'S,

Is a Vicarage, in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Worceſter. The Church was built by the Saxons, after they had fortified the city, to prevent the incurſions of the Britons. The Republican army, when they took the city, deſtroyed the city-wall, and alſo pulled down the tower of the Church. It is at preſent a ſmall, ancient ſtructure, and does not contain any thing either for obſervation or remark. One circumſtance relating to it is rather ſingular—that the Church is the only part of the pariſh to the eaſt of the Severn, all the houſes being on the oppoſite ſhore: the probable reaſon of this is, that it was built within the city-walls for its ſecurity; ſo that whatever fate their houſes might meet with, the Church ſhould be ſafe from the devaſtations of their enemies.

Besides the Churches, there is in Sanſome-ſtreet a neat Chapel for the uſe of perſons profeſſing the Roman Catholic religion.

The Preſbyterian Meeting-houſe, at the weſt end of Angel-ſtreet.

The Quakers have a Meeting-houſe towards the ſouth-weſt end of Sanſome-ſtreet; another in Friar-ſtreet.

The Meeting-houſe of the Anabaptiſts is ſituate in Loweſmore.

The Methodiſts have a Meeting-houſe in Pump-ſtreet.

Lady Huntingdon's Chapel is in Burport.

MONASTERIES.

That there were ſundry Monaſteries founded in this city by the piety of our forefathers, appears manifeſt, from the authority of many ancient records, though the moſt remarkable circumſtances relating to them are probably loſt in ſo long a period of time.

The principal was SAINT WULSTAN'S, which was ſituate towards the ſouth-eaſt ſide of the city, and was endowed by the pious Prelate of that name. It uſually bore the name of the Commandery, from the title which its maſter aſſumed. Cardinal Wolſey had a bull from the Pope, authorizing him to ſuppreſs this Monaſtery; but he did not live to ſee it put in execution, the King upon his diſgrace having ſeized them all into his own hands, and afterwards gave the lands to the College of Chriſt Church, Oxford, by leaſe from whom it was for a long time held by the Wylds, whoſe principal ſeat it was in this county.

It is at preſent a fine old edifice, chiefly conſtructed with wood. The refectory, or great hall, is the principal of its remains, nearly of a ſquare form, with the original door and ſtair-caſe. The windows, which are high and ſpacious, are filled with ſmall panes of glaſs, on which are depicted various curious emblematical repreſentations of birds, flowers, &c.

There were alſo many other Monaſteries, as St. Oſwald's, that of the Grey or Minor Friars, Dominicans, Penitents, &c.; but as the documents relating to theſe eſtabliſhments may prove unintereſting, it will doubtleſs be better to abandon a mere recital of records, which would only tend to fill up the narrow limits of the preſent ſmall treatiſe.

HOSPITALS.

In a kingdom noted for the number of its charitable inſtitutions, we find the city of Worceſter ſupport the national character, by the numerous edifices it contains, endowed for the better maintenance of reſpectable individuals. The principal are the following:

BERKELEY'S HOSPITAL,

A regular and handſome building, in a ſquare form, ſituate towards the north end of the Foregate-ſtreet, ſo called from being founded by Judge Berkeley, of Spetchley, for twelve poor men. It

is a very neat ſtructure of the kind, has a chapel in front, and a reſident chaplain: in the centre is a well executed figure of the pious founder.

ST. OSWALD'S HOSPITAL.

The Hoſpital of St. Oſwald is a very ancient foundation; perhaps it owes its origin to the Biſhop whoſe name it bears; but it was conſiderably augmented by Thomas Haynes, Eſq. Serjeant of his Majeſty's Chapel Royal, in 1622. It had been for many years deprived of its poſſeſſions, by a perſon who held them without any legal title; but Dr. Fell, Dean of Chriſt Church, laying the caſe before Parliament, ſucceeded in the recovery of them. A new building, with a chapel, was erected; after all which, the revenues were found ſufficient for the ſupport of ſixteen men, and twelve women.

Exclusive of theſe, there is Skirving's Hoſpital, in the Tything, for ſix poor women—Inglethorpe's, near the Foregate-ſtreet, for eight men, and one woman—The Trinity, endowed by Queen Elizabeth, for twenty-nine poor women—Naſh's, in New-ſtreet, for eight men, and two women—Wyatt's, in Friar's-ſtreet, for ſix poor men—And many others upon a ſmaller ſcale, all tending to the ſame benevolent purpoſe of providing for the helpleſs and infirm, as well as to aſſuage the diſtreſſes of honeſt poverty, and mitigate in ſome meaſure the awful viſitations of Providence.

EMINENT PERSONS,
NATIVES OF WORCESTER.

WORCESTER has given birth to many eminent perſons, both in literature and other departments. The chief writers are the following:

HEMINGUS,

A Monk, of Worceſter, who may be ranked among the ornaments of the city. His compilations, towards the inveſtigation of the hiſtory of the ancient See of Worceſter, were ſelected with great care and induſtry, and, together with ſome extracts of the late Mr. Graves, were publiſhed by the celebrated antiquary, Mr. Herne, in 2 vols. 12mo.

WILLIAM OF WORCESTER,

Author of the Itinerary.

SENATUS,

Surnamed Bravonius, who wrote the Lives of St. Oſwald and St. Wulſtan, and many other tracts.

FLORENCE OF WORCESTER,

Was a Monk of the Priory, greatly reverenced by his cotemporaries for his great learning and piety. I know not whether to call him an epitomizer or tranſcriber of *Marianus Scotus*; he ſeems to give himſelf the latter character, though it muſt be

acknowledged that he has added very valuable collections out of the Saxon Chronicle and other writers, with much care and judgment. He ſo ſcrupulouſly adheres to his authorities, that he ſometimes retains even their miſtakes, which has occaſioned Sir Thomas Craig to ſay of him, "that he led his "followers into error, like ſo many cattle breaking "over a ditch." However, upon mature examination, he cannot be deemed guilty of the many contradictions laid to his charge.

DR. THOMAS

Was grandſon of the Biſhop of that name, who died in 1688. He wrote the Antiquities of the Priory of Malvern, a Survey of the Cathedral of Worceſter, republiſhed Dugdale's Warwickſhire, &c.

DR. HICKS,

Dean of Worceſter, much noted for the progreſs he made in the inveſtigation of Gothic Antiquities. His *Theſaurus* of the old Northern Dialects is much noticed by the learned, both at home and abroad.

DR. WILLIAM DERHAM

Was born at a ſmall village, called Stoughton, near the city of Worceſter, 1657. He finiſhed his ſtudies at Trinity College, Oxford, and entered into holy orders. He was afterwards made a Fellow of the Royal Society, appointed Chaplain in Ordinary to the King, and in his old age advanced to the place of Canon of Windſor.

The life of this man was ſpent in pointing out the infinite wiſdom of the deity, in forming the various

bodies of nature. His two treatiſes, entitled *Phyſico-Theology* and *Aſtro-Theology*, are juſtly admired by all lovers of virtue and religion; and there certainly are not two books in the Engliſh language better calculated to overthrow atheiſm, and eſtabliſh a belief of the divine perfection. He died in 1725, aged 79. The ſentiments of this good man were conſiſtent with thoſe of the poet—

" Submit thy fate to heav'n's indulgent care,
" Though all ſeem loſt, 'tis impious to deſpair:
" The tracks of Providence, like rivers, wind,
" Thoſe run before us, theſe retreat behind:
" And, though immerg'd in earth from human eyes,
" Again break forth, and more conſpicuous riſe."

AMONGST the illuſtrious members of the Cathedral we may mention the following eminent Prelates:

DR. SANDYS,

Who greatly aſſiſted in preparing the Book of Common Prayer, and in the general reformation of the Church, under Queen Elizabeth.

DR. WHITGIFT,

Whoſe writings were in great eſteem.

DR. PRIDEAUX, AND BISHOP GAUDEN,

The latter of whom is the reputed author of *Icon Baſilike.*

EDWARD STILLINGFLEET, D.D.

A divine of great renown, well verſed in eccleſiaſtical learning, and in all branches of antiquity. Of his writings, his *Origines Sacræ* are his nobleſt and moſt laſting memorial.

OTHER EMINENT PERSONS.

RICHARD LORD BEAUCHAMP, EARL OF WARWICK,

Was born in the city of Worceſter, 1381. He aſſiſted at the coronation of Henry IV. and made ſuch a diſtinguiſhed figure by his art and courage at tournaments, that the King created him a Knight of the Bath, and beſtowed upon him many other marks of his favour. At the battle of Shrewſbury his proofs of courage were ſo conſpicuous, that the King employed him in an expedition againſt Owen Glyndwr. In the reign of Henry V. he attended that Prince in his expedition into France, and was preſent at the battle of Agincourt, where he behaved with moſt aſtoniſhing bravery. After the death of that Monarch, he was appointed Regent of France, which high employment he enjoyed only four years, dying in Normandy, A. D. 1439.

THE EARL OF WORCESTER,

Who was raiſed to that title by Henry VI. was a native of Worceſter, though others ſay of Everdon, in Bedfordſhire. It is mentioned that this nobleman erected that part of Beauchamp's Court, about two miles to the ſouth of this city, contiguous to the banks of the Severn. Having paſt through the higheſt poſts of the realm, he preſents us with a ſtriking inſtance of the vanity of worldly grandeur; for upon the reſtoration of Henry VI. he alone was ſacrificed, and endeavouring to elude the ſearch

made for him, was diſcovered concealed on the top of a large tree near his manſion, taken to London, and beheaded on Tower-Hill, in 1470. Caxton, who publiſhed many of his tracts, particularly a tranſlation of *Cicero de Amicitia*, ſpeaks thus of this nobleman: "At his deth every man that was there "might learn to dye, and take his deth patiently." And, afterwards, "the noble, famous Erle of Wor- "ceſtre, in his tyme, flow'red in vertue and cun- "nyng; to whom I knew none lyke amonge the "Lordes of the Temporaliti in ſcience and moral "vertue." Learning, as Mr. Walpole, in his Liſt of Noble Authors, obſerves, had a patron in this nobleman; but true honour and virtue, on account of his wanton cruelties, will ſcarcely allow him a ſeat in their temple.

LORD SOMERS

Was born in Worceſter, the 4th of March, 1650, in a houſe adjoining to the eaſt end of the Cathedral, "being," as Camden mentions, "a perſon of ex- "traordinary endowments, and early taken notice "of for his great abilities, eſpecially in the know- "ledge of the law, was choſen, amongſt others, "the moſt eminent Counſellors of that time, to "plead the cauſe of the impriſoned Biſhops, in the "reign of King James II. and upon the happy revo- "lution which followed, he was made Lord Chancel- "lor of England; being alſo (beſides his extraordina- "ry abilities in that profeſſion, and an accurate and "uncommon knowledge in the moſt polite parts of

" learning,) univerſally eſteemed and acknow-
" ledged to be the ableſt ſtateſman of the age."

Indeed, whether we conſider this nobleman as a ſcholar, a ſtateſman, a patriot, or a protector of genius in others, he demands the higheſt admiration and applauſe. The annals of Great-Britain and the grateful pen of Addiſon, ſufficiently celebrate his character. The MSS. of this eminent ſtateſman and lawyer filled above 60 vols. in 4to. which were deſtroyed by fire at Lincoln's Inn, in 1752. A number of ſcarce tracts had been reprinted from his collection, in 16 vols. 4to. Some remains, *Immitis ignis Reliquiæ*, were publiſhed by Lord Hardwicke, entitled State Papers, from 1501 to 1726. The noble editor obſerves, that the treatiſe on Grand Jurors, the juſt and modeſt vindication of the laſt Parliament of Charles II. and the famous laſt Speech of King William, were in Lord Somers's hand writing.

EDWARD KELLY,

That extraordinary character, was a native of Worceſter, bred an Apothecary, and was a good proficient in chemiſtry; pretending to have the Grand Elixir or Philoſopher's Stone, which Lilly, in his Life, tells us he made, or at leaſt received ready made from a Friar in Germany. He pretended to ſee apparitions in a chryſtal or berryl looking-glaſs. The King of Poland; Alaſco, Palatine of Poland; Pucel, a learned Florentine; Prince Roſemberg of Germany, and others, were aſſociated with him and Dr. Dee, and often preſent at their apparitions. But Lilly obſerves, he was ſo wicked,

that the angels would not appear to him willingly, nor be obedient to him. Weever, in his Funeral Monuments, allows him to have been a ſkilful chemiſt, and that Queen Elizabeth ſent for him out of Germany; but, climbing over a wall at Prague, where it is reported he was impriſoned for a chemical cheat put upon the Emperor, he broke his leg, and died in 1581.

JOHN WALL, M. D.

Was born at the neighbouring village of Powyck, and ſerved the office of Mayor of Worceſter, in 1703. His account of the Malvern Waters was a great inducement to company to reſort to that delightful ſituation; and, to his knowledge of experimental chemiſtry, the Worceſter China Manufactory are much indebted for the great improvements made in their materials. He alſo excelled in the art of painting, as we find from the authority of that excellent critic, Dr. Wharton, who, ſpeaking of his capital picture of Brutus condemning his ſons, writes thus: "This ſubject has been well executed by Dr. "Wall, of Worceſter, whoſe fine genius for hiſtory "painting would make us regret that his time is em-"ployed in another profeſſion, were it not for the "intereſt of mankind that he is ſo employed." He died in 1776.

MR. T. WHITE

Was a native of this city: having ſerved a regular time with a ſtatuary in Piccadilly, near Hyde Park Corner, and being a very ingenious young

man, Sir Chriſtopher Wren took him with him to Rome. In the intervals of his buſineſs, he made admeaſurements of all the component parts of St. Peter's Church, and aſſiſted Sir Chriſtopher in modelling that of St. Paul's, London. At his return to England, Wren would have retained him as his Foreman, to ſuperintend the building of St. Paul's; but Mr. White, having an eſtate in Worceſter, choſe rather to retire to his native city, where he lived in great reputation as a maſter builder and architect. He alſo, occaſionally, exerciſed the art of ſculpture, many beautiful ſpecimens of which are now to be ſeen in ſundry parts of the city. He is believed to have been architect to ſeveral of the new Churches; and at length, at the requeſt of the Corporation, he undertook to rebuild the Town-Hall, which he performed ſo much to their ſatisfaction, that they ſettled upon him an annuity of 30*l.* a year. He never married, lived in eaſy circumſtances, and died about the year 1738.

Neither, amongſt the diſtinguiſhed natives, muſt we omit that excellent artiſt, the late

JOHN BASKERVILLE,

One of the firſt printers in the world. He was born in Worceſter in 1706, trained to a ſtone-cutter, and became afterwards a writing-maſter in Birmingham; but as painting ſuited his genius, he entered into the lucrative trade of japanning. In 1750, his inclination for letters induced him to turn his thoughts to the preſs. He ſpent much time and

money before he could produce one letter to pleaſe himſelf, and his firſt attempt was a beautiful quarto edition of virgil. He afterwards printed numerous books, which are well known, with more ſatisfaction to the literati, than emolument to himſelf. After his death, which happened in 1775, many efforts were made to diſpoſe of his elegant types, but no purchaſers could be found in the whole commonwealth of letters; the Univerſities coldly rejected the offer; the London bookſellers underſtood no ſcience like that of profit. The valuable property therefore lay a dead weight, till bought by a literary ſociety at Paris, in 1779, for 3700*l*. The remaining copies of his impreſſions were purchaſed for 1100*l*. by the publiſher of the preſent work.

TOWNS, VILLAGES, AND SEATS,

IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF WORCESTER.

IN a work of this kind, ſome account will, doubtleſs, be expected of the chief places worthy of notice in the vicinity; yet, as brevity muſt be, in ſome degree, adhered to, it cannot be expected that particular details can be given, which would far exceed the limits of the preſent ſmall treatiſe. The Severn, as may be ſeen in a map of the county, flows north and ſouth, very nearly through the centre of the county; it ſhall, therefore, be our plan to begin about ten miles up the current of that river, taking whatever may occur deſerving of notice to the eaſt and weſt, without obſerving any *ſtrict* regularity as to the ſhorteſt rout.

The firſt place, therefore, which ſtrikes our attentention, at the propoſed diſtance up the Severn, is

STOURPORT.

Here, at our commencement, we ſee the rapid effects of induſtrious commerce. Some years ago, this pretty town was almoſt a barren, ſandy heath, till the junction of the Staffordſhire Canal with the Severn was formed at this place, which, from a poor inſignificant village, is now become a neat and handſome town; new buildings are continually

ſpringing up, and its wharfs, extenſive baſon, and buſy traffic, preſent a lively picture of a little ſea-port.

By the means of the canal from this place, there is an eaſy communication with moſt parts of the north, Mancheſter, Liverpool, Hull, &c. The manufacturers, alſo, of Birmingham and the adjacent towns, derive great advantage from having their heavieſt products conveyed by water to the principal ſea-ports of the kingdom, without any material addition to their original price. The baſon was opened in 1771, after an expence of 105,000*l.*

About a mile to the eaſt, is

HARTLEBURY CASTLE,

The reſidence of the Biſhop of Worceſter, a neat and uniform ſtructure, ſeated in a beautiful part of the county, with extenſive views, the whole well laid out, forming a very compleat and pleaſing retreat. The original building was erected in the reign of Henry III. but demoliſhed in that of Charles I.; rebuilt afterwards in a much more elegant manner, and is at preſent one of the handſomeſt epiſcopal palaces in the kingdom, juſtly admired for the regularity of its workmanſhip, ſpacious rooms, and fine gardens.

Great improvements and additions were made to this ſtructure after the civil wars, by Biſhop Hough, who preſided in the See of Worceſter near 44 years, dying at the age of 93; and whom, as the ideal Perſian ſays, "nobody ever thought lived too long,

" unleſs it was out of an impatience to ſucceed " him." This Prelate, remarkable for his hoſpitality, was juſtly and univerſally reſpected for his public and private virtues; as a proof of the natural ſweetneſs of his temper, it may not perhaps be improper to relate the following little anecdote.

A nephew of Lord Digby's called to pay his reſpects to his Lordſhip, at Hartlebury. Being dinner time, and the houſe full of company, the ſervant in reaching him a chair, threw down a curious weather-glaſs of very conſiderable value. The gentleman endeavoured to excuſe the ſervant, and make an apology for himſelf as being the cauſe of the accident, when the Biſhop, with great good-nature, interrupted him—" Be not under any concern," ſaid his Lordſhip, ſmiling, " for I am much be- " holden to you for it. We have had a very dry " ſeaſon, and now I hope we ſhall have rain. I " never ſaw the glaſs ſo *low* in my life." The whole company were pleaſed at his Lordſhip's good-humour, and the more ſo as he was then on the verge of 90—a period of life when the infirmities of age make moſt men peeviſh and haſty.

Hartlebury was given to the See of Worceſter by Burthed, King of the Mercians, about the year 850; afterwards, during the reign of Henry III. the caſtle was embattled and finiſhed by Biſhop Giffard. It was afterwards ſtrengthened with a moat, and put in a poſture of defence ſufficient to ſecure it from any ſudden attack. During the great rebellion, Colonel Morgan ſummoned it, Captain Sandys being then

Governor, with Lord Windſor, Colonel S. Sandys, 120 foot, and 20 horſe. It was at that time very ſtrong, and had proviſions for twelve months; but ſurrendered without firing a ſhot.

The Chapel of this Palace being out of repair, and the glaſs much broken, the whole was very elegantly fitted up by Biſhop Maddox, at the expence of 1200*l.* The new glaſs was painted by Price, after ſome deſigns of Dr. Wall, of Worceſter. Hartlebury owes to his preſent Lordſhip the valuable ornament of a noble and well-ſelected library. —At ſome diſtance towards the ſouth-eaſt, is

WAYSLEY GREEN,

The manſion of T. Baker, Eſq. and as comfortable a reſidence as can be met with; it is of modern conſtruction, elegantly furniſhed, and the riſing plantations will ſoon add to its beauty.

A little to the weſt of Stourport, is

ARLEY,

With a neat Church, placed on an eminence, and contiguous to it the Parſonage Houſe, beautiful in its ſituation, and commanding a fine proſpect. Between this and the river was the fine old ſeat of the Muchloes, till about the year 1766, when it paſſed by marriage to the family of the Zacharys: near it has been lately erected a handſome ſtructure of free-ſtone, beautiful in its deſign, though placed in a ſituation rather too low and confined.

Somewhat towards the ſouth, is

ASTLEY,

The ſeat of Mores Harper, Eſq. and Glaſshampton, commonly called Glaſſon, a ſmall but pleaſant village, and remarkable for containing a noble manſion the ſeat of W. M. Moſeley, Eſq. to the weſt of which is

ABBERLEY LODGE,

The ſeat of R. Bromley, Eſq. ſtanding upon a very high hill, in a ſituation pleaſant to the eye. It is a neat comfortable manſion, and contains an excellent collection of pictures, many of them by the following maſters, viz. Reubens, Titian, Raphael, Salvator Roſa, &c. This was the reſidence of William Walſh, Eſq. who repreſented the county of Worceſter in three ſucceſſive Parliaments, well known for his various writings. Mr. Dryden ſtiles him the beſt critic of our nation in his time; and the following lines by Pope, ſhew plainly in what high eſtimation he was held by that excellent writer.

" Such late was Walſh, the Muſe's judge and friend,
" Who juſtly knew to blame and to commend;
" To failings mild, but zealous for deſert,
" The cleareſt head, and the ſincereſt heart."

Nearly oppoſite is the celebrated

WOODBURY HILL,

Remarkable for an old entrenchment on the top, commonly called Owen Glyndwr's Camp, where the Welſh forces with the French auxiliaries were encamped, when, in 1405, after plundering the city

of Worceſter, they were ſecuring a retreat into Wales: Henry IV. followed them, and after an unſucceſsful expedition into the mountains, returned to Worceſter. The top contains, including the works, nearly thirty acres, commanding a general view of the country in moſt directions. This hill ſeems to have been too far diſtant from the camps in the neighbourhood, for the armies to have diſturbed each other much. Dr. Naſh obſerves, that his ingenious friend, Mr. Pennant, ſuppoſed, that the King lay on Abberley Hill, about a mile to the north of Woodbury, and that from both hills were ſent the choice ſpirits of each party to tilt and ſkirmiſh, though there are not any marks of entrenchments now viſible on the Abberley Hills.

Towards the eaſt, in the fertile vale below, is

WITLEY.

This is the noble ſeat of Lord Foley, to whom the whole of the pariſh belongs. The preſent ſtructure was much beautified by Thomas Foley, Eſq. the founder of that excellent charity, the Stourbridge Hoſpital, and is placed in a very ſelect ſituation. The range of rooms in the ſouth front are very ſuperb and highly ornamented, though in general rather too low, and ſome of them ſo overcharged with gold, as plainly to indicate the taſte of other times. The adjacent park and grounds afford a great variety of landſcape ſcenery, yet ſeem to be neglected, though they preſent many facilities of improvement, whenever Witley ſhall become the favourite reſidence of its owner.

The contiguous Chapel was erected by the firſt Lord Foley and Lady Mary, his widow, to whoſe memory, on the ſouth ſide of the altar, there is a ſuperb marble monument. The ſtructure is equal to the benevolent ideas of the founders, and is reckoned to be one of the handſomeſt in the kingdom. The beautiful ceilings were painted by Verrio, and originally intended for the Chapel at Cannons, the ſuperb ſeat of the celebrated Duke of Chandos, but, on the reverſe of fortune of that Nobleman, were bought by the ſecond Lord Foley, and placed in this Chapel, to which they are a real ornament. Yet uncommonly handſome as this building is, its ſituation would not be agreeable to many; being the pariſh church, the graves and tomb-ſtones are abſolutely in the area of the houſe. "This," ſays Mr. Sulivan, "I noticed to the old lady who "conducted us through the apartments; on which "ſhe very ſagaciouſly obſerved, if people are ſhock-"ed at the ſight of mortality, it is very eaſy for "them to ſhut the windows."

From hence towards the ſouth-eaſt, we come to

HOLT CASTLE,

So called from the thick woods which formerly ſurrounded it, *holt*, in old Engliſh, denoting wood or foreſt. Here was formerly a very ſtrong caſtle, ſuppoſed to have been built by one of the D'Abitots, of which nothing now remains, except fragments of ſome old embattled walls, but they are ſo unconnected, that it is impoſſible to form an idea

of the original grandeur of the whole. Adjoining it is a handſome ſeat; it was the ancient reſidence of the Beauchamps, purchaſed in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Sir Thomas Bromley, Lord Chancellor of England, and is mentioned by Leland, as the caſtle in which King Richard II. held grand tournaments.

The adjoining Church is, according to Biſhop Lyttleton, the moſt perfect relick of Saxon architecture in the whole county, the greateſt part of it being in that ſtile. The outward door, as alſo the arch of the chancel, with their low, maſſy pillars, the capitals of which are ornamented with various emblems, are beautiful proofs of its great antiquity, and muſt have been erected long before the conqueſt.

On the oppoſite ſide of the river Severn, is

OMBERSLEY COURT.

Omberſley appears to be a place of great antiquity, for I find that a fair and market were granted to it in the reign of Edward III. The family of the Sandys, owners of this eſtate, came originally out of Cumberland, and the firſt we find mentioned was Dr. Sandys, created Biſhop of Worceſter by Queen Elizabeth, and afterwards Archbiſhop of York. Samuel, his eldeſt ſon, purchaſed the manor of Omberſley: George, the other ſon, was the well-known poet and traveller; his account of Turkey, Egypt, and the Holy Land, has been confirmed by ſucceeding travellers, and his poetical works,

alſo have conſiderable merit. Dryden pronounced him the beſt verſifier of the laſt age, and his tranſlation of Ovid's Metamorphoſes is ſaid to have been one of the firſt books that gave Mr. Pope a taſte for poetry. By the death of the late Lord the title is now extinct.

Samuel, the firſt Lord Sandys, repreſented the city of Worceſter from 1717 to 1741, in which laſt year, being Chancellor of the Exchequer, he was created Baron Sandys of Ombersley. By him was the preſent elegant manſion erected; it is a very handſome building, contiguous to the high-road, and is furniſhed with many good pictures, ſeveral of which belonged to the Earl of Orford; among them is one by Vandyke, of Charles Louis, Prince Elector, brother to Prince Rupert; and a moſt capital picture by Dobſon, the ſubject of which is—Colonel Ruſſel, father of Lord Orford, having thrown up his commiſſion in diſguſt, Prince Rupert and Colonel Murray, over a bottle, perſuade him to reſume it: Ruſſel has his hand upon a flaſk, and appears very maudlin; Murray, with a ſly look, ſhort hair, Scotch complexion, and ſoldier-like face, is dipping a cockade in a glaſs of burgundy; intimating that he has drawn him in to accept the commiſſion; Prince Rupert behind, fuddled; the whole groupe exquiſitely ludicrous, and coſt Lord Orford 400*l.*

A ſmall diſtance towards the eaſt, is

WESTWOOD PARK.

At this place was anciently a houſe of Benedictine Nuns, ſubordinate to the Monaſtery of Fonteve-

raud, confirmations to which, I find, were made by King John and ſeveral others of our Monarchs. At the diſſolution of religious houſes, Weſtwood, with its demeſne lands, was granted by Hen. VIII. to Sir John Pakinton, Knt. in which deſcent it continues to the preſent period. The chief reſidence of this family was at Hampton Lovet, but that being damaged in the great rebellion, the manſion-houſe at Weſtwood (which had been erected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, as a lodge or banquetting-houſe,) was conſiderably beautified, and from that time became the chief ſeat.

Weſtwood is a fine ſpecimen of the old taſte, for it has remained without any material alteration or addition ever ſince the original foundation. It conſiſts of a ſquare building, from each corner of which projects a wing in the form of a parallelogram, and turretted in the ſtyle of the *Chateau de Madrid* near Paris, or Holland Houſe. Its ſituation is on a riſing ground, enriched with an extenſive park, well wooded with fine timber, to which a lake, covering nearly 100 acres, is a great ornament. In a word, the richneſs of the wood, combining with the ſtatelineſs of the edifice, forms a picture of ancient magnificence unequalled by any thing in this county.

This ſtructure, venerable by its antiquity, has often afforded an aſylum to learned men: Dr. Hammond, Biſhops Morley, Fell, Gunning, and others, always met with an hoſpitable reception here during the troubles of the kingdom. The well-known character of Sir Roger de Coverley, in the Spectator, is

ſaid to have been one of the Pakinton family; and, from various paſſages in thoſe papers, in which Addiſon deſcribes his country reſidence, he had, doubtleſs, partaken of the hoſpitality of Weſtwood Houſe.

The good Lady Pakinton, as ſhe was called, is ſuppoſed to have written the valuable book, entitled, *The Whole Duty of Man*, and it appears from letters ſtill preſerved in the family to be in ſome degree authenticated. That work, as alſo *The Decay of Chriſtian Piety*, may, poſſibly, have been both written by that Lady, though very amply corrected and augmented by Biſhop Fell, between whom there ſubſiſted a long and uninterrupted correſpondence. Dr. Hicks, Dean of Worceſter, in his preface to the Anglo-Saxon Grammar, ſays, ſhe was deſervedly ſuppoſed to be the author. Upon the whole, it ſtill remains a doubt, and it is much eaſier to prove who was not the author, than to aſſert who was; however, Lady Pakinton ſeems to have as good, or better, claim, than the others who have been mentioned to have written that valuable work. —*See Gentleman's Magazine*, 1754, *p.* 26.

There are here ſeveral good pictures, principally family portraits; likewiſe, one of the Earl of Strafford, by Vandyke; alſo of Sir John Perrot, Knight of the Bath, to whoſe eſtates the Pakintons ſucceeded. Sir Robert Staunton, in his *Fragmenta Regalia*, intimates that he was a natural ſon of King Henry VIII. "If we compare," ſays he, "his pic-" ture, his qualities, geſture and voice, with thoſe " of the King, which memory yet retains among

" us, they will plead ſtrongly that he was a ſurrep-
" titious child of the blood royal."

DROITWICH.

Wich, or Wiccia, was probably known to the Romans; it is ſufficient, however, to aſcertain its greatneſs and antiquity, to mention, that it gave name to the whole county of Worceſter. We find it mentioned as a populous town in the Conqueror's General Survey, and of conſiderable importance by its trade in ſalt, which, during the long period of ſo many ſucceſſive centuries, has been conſtantly increaſing. The town lies in a pleaſant valley, between two hills, and is moſtly built on the ſouth bank of the Salwarp. It is a corporate body, and ſent members to Parliament as early as 26 Edw. I.

The ſalt works at this town are very ancient, and are mentioned in a grant made by Kenulph, King of the Mercians, of ten houſes in Wich, with ſalt furnaces, to the Church of Worceſter: various acts have been enacted at different periods by moſt of our Monarchs for their encouragement and ſupport, the property of the wells being for a long period of years veſted in the ſole poſſeſſion of a corporate body.

In this ſtate they continued till, in the year 1690, Robert Steyner, Eſq. a perſon of conſiderable property, and of an enterpriſing ſpirit, ſunk two pits in his own freehold ground. This was oppoſed by the Corporation, but, after various trials, was finally determined in his favour. Steyner, however, ſhared the fate of moſt other projectors and perſons engag-

ed in long and expenſive law-ſuits; for, having ſpent an eſtate of above 1000*l.* a year, he was ſupported at the expence of the pariſh.

This oppoſition tended much to the mutual diſadvantage of both parties, the old proprietors uſing their pits to a ſmall profit, and the different freeholders their ſeveral works, always with a deſign of underſelling the others. This jarring contention continued for many years, when a revolution took place in their value, as ſudden as it was ſtrange. In 1725, Sir Richard Lane, ſometime Mayor of Worceſter, and Repreſentative in Parliament for the ſame, having been informed by perſons who had been concerned in the ſalt works in Cheſhire, that the ſtrongeſt brine lay there lower than the pits at Droitwich were generally ſunk, ordered the talc, which was at the bottom of the pits, to be bored through. Upon this, the ſtrong brine burſt forth with ſuch violence, that the two men who were at work in the pit, were forcibly thrown to the ſurface, and killed. This method being purſued, a profuſion of ſtrong brine was eaſily obtained.

The confuſion and diſtreſs which this produced is incredible; about 5000*l.* a year, in which charities of various deſcriptions, and about 400 perſons, had the greateſt part of their property, were rendered of no value. Theſe works have, within theſe late years, been ſo conſiderably increaſed as to pay the annual duty of about 134,000*l.*; ſince the laſt augmentation, they have been ſtated to pay nearly 5000*l.* per week.

Following the courſe of the ſtream from Wich, we come to

SALWARP,

A neat, pleaſant village, having ſome good manſions, among which High Park, the ſeat of Philip Greſley, Eſq. a beautiful modern building, placed on a fine aſcent, is eminently conſpicuous.

Approaching nearer to the Severn,

HAWFORD

Preſents itſelf on the road to Kidderminſter, having many neat dwellings, commanding fine views over the vale below, in which the Droitwich Canal meanders in a pleaſing manner.

HINLIP

Lies a little to the left, on riſing ground. This fine old manſion was built by John Habington, Cofferer to Queen Elizabeth, about the year 1572, which date is ſtill to be found in different parts of the building. Thomas Habington, his ſon, was engaged, with others, in the unſucceſsful attempts to liberate Mary Queen of Scots, for which act he remained many years priſoner in the tower of London. During the reign of James I. he was accuſed of having concealed, in his houſe at Hinlip, ſundry perſons engaged in the Gunpowder Plot, and was condemned to die: but by the interceſſion of his father-in-law, Lord Morley, was pardoned, and after that lived in a retired manner at his ſeat at

Hinlip. It was during the comforts of this retirement that he applied himſelf to the ſtudy of the antiquities of the county of Worceſter: an extenſive MS. on that ſubject he left behind him, which formed the baſis of Dr. Naſh's collections for a hiſtory of the county. He alſo wrote an account of the Cathedral and Biſhops of Worceſter, and many other tracts.

The houſe of Hinlip, in its original ſtate, was conſtructed in a very ſingular manner, many places of concealment very difficult to be diſcovered being contrived in different parts of the building, with great ſkill and ingenuity. The acceſs to ſome rooms was through chimnies, and others had trap-doors communicating to back ſtair-caſes; the rooms on the outſide appearing like chimnies; the whole building being planned in a very curious and uncommon manner. It is now much modernized, and uſed as a genteel boarding-ſchool for ladies.

There are ſome fine old pictures, moſt of which are much injured. The moſt curious is a portrait of John Habington, the founder, with the following inſcription on the one ſide:

"A cader va chi trepo alto fale."

There is alſo a buſt of Thomas Habington, the antiquary, and of Mary his wife, daughter of Lord Morley, and ſiſter to Lord Monteagle, to whom ſhe is ſuppoſed to have written the letter which diſcovered the Gunpowder Plot.

Nearer to Worceſter, is

ROSE PLACE,

The reſidence of Thomas Williams, Eſq. late Mayor of Worceſter, a ſmall but pleaſant manſion, the proſpect from which towards Worceſter is very inviting.—Nearly contiguous, is

PERDISWALL,

The ſeat of J. Wakeman, Eſq. It is an elegant modern building of free-ſtone, pleaſantly ſituate at a convenient diſtance from the high-road. At the entrance into the grounds, on each ſide of the gate, are two carved figures, one repreſenting Plenty, and the other Commerce or Navigation. The ſurrounding plantations are laid out in a good ſtyle, and, when they have attained a greater degree of perfection, will add conſiderably in point of rural beauty to the vicinity of Worceſter.

BEVERE.

The hamlet of Bevere is in a fine pleaſant country. The air and ſoil are remarkably dry and healthy, the proſpects agreeable, and the river Severn, which flows near it, both pleaſant and advantageous. It has many neat manſions, among which is a handſome ſeat of the Rev. T. Naſh, D. D. well known in the literary world as the author of the Hiſtory of Worceſterſhire, and various other works. The oppoſite iſland of Bevere is remarkable for having afforded a retreat to the inhabitants of Wor-

ceſter in the reign of Hardicnute. It was again an aſylum to many diſtreſſed inhabitants in the year 1637, when a peſtilence broke out in the city.

A little lower down the river, is the beautiful ſeat of

HALLOW,

The reſidence of the late J. Berwick, Eſq. It lies about a mile and a half to the north-weſt of the city, ſituate on a fine ſalubrious eminence, riſing gradually from the weſtern bank of the Severn. The pleaſure-grounds are well diſpoſed, and the views from the different breaks are various and pleaſing. The proſpect towards the north extends over the fine vale through which the Severn meanders; towards the ſouth another charming view of the river preſents itſelf, including the city of Worceſter, and terminated in different directions by the Bredon and Cotſwold Hills. In the grounds is a chalybeate ſpring approximating, according to experiment, much to the Cheltenham water. This manſion is at preſent without any reſident family, though its charming ſituation, and eaſy diſtance from Worceſter, contribute conſiderably to render it worthy of the obſervation of perſons of taſte and faſhion.

Rather more than two miles to the weſt, is

COTHERIDGE.

This is the hoſpitable manſion of Rowland Berkeley, Eſq. and belonged in the reign of Queen Elizabeth to the Braces, from whom it came to Wil-

liam Berkeley, of Spetchley, who, upon the death of his only ſon, Thomas, at Megree, in Greece, (going with Sir Daniel Harvey to the Court of Conſtantinople,) left Cotheridge, among other eſtates, to his ſecond daughter.

The front of the building, which is of modern conſtruction, is light and airy, and the views down the vale, through which the Teme winds its courſe, are pleaſant, bounded towards the ſouth-weſt by the fine object of the Malvern Hills. A long avenue of trees, nearly a mile in length, conducts from the road to the front of the houſe. Though the admirer of modern improvements in landſcape ſcenery might diſlike the view of a number of lofty trees planted in ſtreight lines, ſtill the *tout enſemble* has a pleaſing effect, and throws an agreeable variety over the general face of the country. Thence continuing along the high-road, we come to

ST. JOHN'S,

A neat little village about half a mile to the weſt of the Severn, and adjoining the boundaries of the city. It has a fair kept annually on the Friday before Palm Sunday, on which day only the Mayor and Aldermen of Worceſter, attended by the uſual officers, walk in proceſſion through the ſame; yet have no authority or juriſdiction, it being without the liberties of the city. The origin of this cuſtom is very remote, commencing 1 Edw. IV.

The townſhip of St. John's conſiſts principally of one ſtreet, of good well-built houſes; it is ſituate on

high ground, commands an extenſive and very beautiful view of Worceſter, from which it is approached by the new road. The other part conſiſts of the townſhip of Wyck, which takes its name from the winding of the river Teme, as the old Saxon word ſignifies, and is ſituate towards the ſouth-weſt part of St. John's pariſh, containing ſundry good manſions. In this pariſh was born Sir Reginald Bray, who, for his great ſervice in defeating the ambition of Richard III. and uniting the houſes of York and Lancaſter, was raiſed by Henry VII. to the dignity of Lord Treaſurer of England. He was a great benefactor to the Chapel of St. John's and the Priory Church of Great Malvern.—Rather more than a mile towards the ſouth-weſt, is

POWYCK,

An extremely pleaſant village, in which many genteel families reſide, and, being placed on various ſmall eminences, commands a variety of pleaſing views. Moſt of the houſes are very neat, amongſt which the ſeat of William Ruſſel, Eſq. is the moſt conſpicuous; the whole village, indeed, carries the comfortable appearance of neatneſs and attention. Powyck is noted for having a battle fought near it in 1642, known by the name of the ſkirmiſh of Wickfield, ſituate between Powyck Bridge and the Cherry Orchard.

In this pariſh, towards the ſouth-eaſt, is Beauchamp's Court, which was intended for the habitation of the honourable and ancient family from

which it took its name; but was never finiſhed, and the only wing which was erected is lofty, and now uſed as a farm-houſe.—At ſome diſtance towards the eaſt, on the other ſide of the Severn, is

CROOKBARROW HILL.

Here was a manor houſe moated round, but not very large. Immediately behind the houſe is Crookbarrow Hill, ſo called from *Crug*, in Britiſh, ſignifying a hill, and *barrow*, which word often ſignifies a place fortified by the Romans; and was uſed in after ages for a burial-ground, or other purpoſes. It may, therefore, ſignify the hill where was a barrow. It conſiſts of about ſix acres of an oval form, and conſiderable height; poſſibly the hill being irregular by nature, it was worked by art into its preſent form.

Towards the north-eaſt, is

SPETCHLEY.

This is a place of great antiquity, and gave name to a very ancient family, called therefrom De Spetchley. In the reign of Edward IV. it was purchaſed by Sir Thomas Littleton, ſo juſtly renowned for his extenſive works on the laws of England; it afterwards came to the Seldens, and from them to Rowland Berkeley, Eſq. of the city of Worceſter, and Member of Parliament for the ſame; who ſettled it on his ſecond ſon, Sir Robert Berkeley, Knt. Juſtice of the King's Bench, in which worthy family it continues to the preſent period.

The contiguous Church contains ſome handſome monuments, one of Rowland Berkeley, Eſq. who died in 1611, and Catherine his wife; the other a very good figure of Judge Berkeley, who died in 1656: he is repreſented in his robes, holding a ſcroll in his right hand. This Robert, the pious founder of Berkeley's Hoſpital in Worceſter, gave his opinion, with the other Judges, in favour of the King's right to ſhip-money; and was afterwards impeached by Parliament, fined 20,000*l.* and confined for ſome time in the Tower of London. The Parliamentary forces, not forgetful of ſuch his conduct, plundered his town reſidence, and, a little before the battle of Worceſter, the Scottiſh forces, though at that time in the King's ſervice, burnt his beautiful ſeat at Spetchley, as it lay in their way from White Lady Aſton. Sir Robert after that cauſed his ſtables to be converted into a temporary dwelling-houſe, and lived with affluence, or, as mentioned by ſome, with great ſplendour upon the wrecks of his fortune.—Contiguous, is the

ROUND HILL,

An eminence ſomewhat ſimilar to Crookbarrow; on the ſummit is a ſmall but neat manſion, commanding a very fine view of the extenſive kind.

To the ſouth-eaſt, is

CHURCHILL,

Noted for its ſalubrious ſpring, eſteemed to be equal in virtue to that at Tunbridge Spa, and to

which, formerly, many from diſtant parts were uſed to reſort; but whether theſe waters did not anſwer the public expectation, or for what other reaſon I know not, few at preſent frequent them.

Going from hence, and leaving Norton Lodge, a pleaſant rural villa belonging to Thomas Bird, Eſq. on the left, we come to

KEMPSEY,

Which lies in the high-road, three miles ſouth of Worceſter, and is a great thoroughfare to Glouceſter, Bath, Briſtol, &c. It is a very pleaſant and handſome village, placed in a charming ſituation, at an eaſy diſtance from the river Severn. Moſt of the houſes are neat ſtructures, the moſt conſpicuous are the ſeat of J. Baker, Eſq. and the reſidence of General Ellis.

The Biſhop of Worceſter had formerly an elegant Palace here, built many years before the conqueſt, and here the Barons lodged Henry III. after they had taken him priſoner at the battle of Lewes, in Suſſex; but it has been ſo long ſince demoliſhed, that the ruins even are not diſcernible. The Church is a neat building, erected in the form of a croſs, but bears no marks of antiquity, neither does it contain any monuments worthy of notice. It had formerly a College of Secular Prieſts, but, at the diſſolution of religious houſes, fell to the Crown, and was afterwards granted in exchange to the Dean and Chapter of Worceſter. At a ſmall diſtance from the Church ſome veſtiges are ſtill remaining of a Roman camp,

which appears to have been a place of great ſtrength, thrown up by them when they invaded the territories of the Cornavii.—To the weſt, acroſs Severn, at the diſtance of rather more than two miles, is

MADRESFIELD.

This was the reſidence of the ancient family of the Bracys. William Bracy, 7th Henry IV. was an Eſquire, returned into the Exchequer, to attend the King's perſon with horſe and arms into France. In 7th Henry V. Joane Bracy, the heireſs of that family, married Thomas Lygon, and in this manner the name of Bracy becoming extinct in Madresfield, the Lygons ſucceeded. The Lygons came in with the Conqueror; and the deſcendant of this ancient family is William Lygon, Eſq. the preſent worthy Repreſentative in Parliament for the county of Worceſter, concerning whom we may quote the lines of Dr. Booker, in his poem, called Malvern:

" Faſt by theſe mountains, in a ſhelter'd glade,
" Riſe, Madresfield, thy woods; whither retires
" From patriot labours (never with a heart
" Reproach'd by breach of truſt,) Lygon, oft
" Foley's compeer to Britain's Council ſent,
" Sent by his grateful country."

This habitation is a true repreſentation of thoſe ancient caſtles, which, amidſt the rivalſhips and civil diſſentions occaſioned by the feudal ſyſtem, were the impregnable retreats of the powerful Barons, before the general knowledge of gunpowder, and the uſe of artillery. It is ſurrounded with a deep foſſe,

the main entrance being over a bridge: the interior is, however, much modernized, and rendered very comfortable and elegant. It commands a fine view of the long range of hills, the village of Malvern and parts adjacent; the grounds contiguous to the manſion are enriched with ſome good wood ſcenery, rendered various by well-formed pieces of water, &c.—About a mile towards the ſouth-weſt, is the pleaſant village of

MALVERN.

The Malvern Hills run from north to ſouth, the higheſt point being about 1313 feet above the ſurface of the Severn at Hanley, and appear much more elevated than they really are; ſtill, however, they are lofty, and, being placed in the centre of a level country, ſtrike with a degree of grandeur, which, in a leſs favourable ſituation, they would be diveſted of.* The village of Malvern is delightfully ſituate on the eaſtern ſide of them, diſtant about eight miles from the city of Worceſter.

The chalybeate ſpring, for which this place is much noted, is deſcribed by the ingenious Dr. Wall,

* "Within the diſtance of a muſket-ſhot of the trenches of a camp, which "is on the ſouthern part of theſe hills, was found, in the year 1650, by "Thomas Taylor, near Burſtner's Croſs, as he was digging a ditch round "his cottage, a coronet or bracelet of gold, ſet with precious ſtones, of a "ſize to be drawn over the arm and ſleeve. It was ſold to Mr. Hill, a "goldſmith, in Glouceſter, for 37l.; Hill ſold it to a jeweller in Lombard-"ſtreet, London, for 250l.; and the jeweller ſold the ſtones, which were "deeply inlaid, for 1500l.; as Mr. Clough, of Lombard-ſtreet, reported."—MS. in Jeſus College Library, Oxford.

of Worceſter:—"It approaches nearly, in point of "purity, to the Holywell water; for two quarts of "this are found to contain only one grain of earth, "one grain of iron, and nearly the ſame quantity "of a muriatic ſalt, which grows moiſt in the air; "and, therefore, appears to be bittern."

The Holywell, as the Doctor obſerves, riſes on the eaſtern ſide, which, he aſſures us, by many quotations from claſſical as well as medical authorities, furniſhes water of the pureſt and moſt medicinal qualities. His two beautiful quotations from Taſſo and Milton, I ſhall inſert:

"O liquidi criſtalli, onde s'eſtingua
"L' ardente ſete a miſeri mortali.
"Ma piu ſalubre e, ſe tra vive pietre
"Rompendo l'argentate e fredde cora
"Incontra il nuovo ſol, che il puro argento
"Co raggi indora." TASSO.

"Wherever fountain or freſh current flow'd
"Againſt the eaſtern ray, tranſlucent, pure,
"With touch ethereal of heav'n's fiery rod,
"I drank from the clear milky juice, allaying
"Thirſt, and refreſh'd." MILTON.

The ſpring at Malvern is perfectly tranſparent and cool, and the faculty reckon it good in many caſes, eſpecially where a diſeaſe has made no greater lodgment than to be merely cutaneous. The water exceeds moſt others in elementary purity, and every year manifeſts its ſalubrity in curing diſeaſes, which had previouſly baffled the power of medicine in other ſituations. With regard to the air, ſo eſſential both to the preſervation and recovery of health, it is be-

yond contradiction, that Malvern and its environs, enjoy a moſt pure and ſalubrious atmoſphere, and viſitors ſeldom fail to derive benefit from it.

The perſon who finds delight in contemplating the beautiful ſcenes of nature, will be not a little gratified by walking over theſe fine hills, and remarking the various pleaſing views which preſent themſelves in every direction; for a more enchanting excurſion, without a poſſibility of fatigue from ſo gradual an aſcent on nature's carpet, can hardly be found—according to the Poet, who, ſpeaking of theſe hills, thus writes:

" Oh! ever could I wander o'er thoſe lawns,
" Beſide thy ſtream, thou pureſt ſpring that flows!
" Climb each bold eminence, and daily find
" Some object new for wonder; the deep glades
" Traverſe, embower'd, by intertwining trees,
" Drink at the rill that murmurs at my foot,
" And think it luxury; for ever gaze
" On the wide ſcene around me, where conſpire
" Nature's all-generous offspring to exalt
" And warm the ſoul."

It is to be obſerved, that Malvern has afforded ſubject for two pretty poems, the one (from which the above extract has been taken,) by Dr. Booker; the other by a Mr. Cottle, of Briſtol.

" It is beyond the power of an antiquary," ſays Dr. Naſh, "to deſcribe the beautiful proſpects " from this hill. If a diſtant view delights, here " you may ſee the counties of Monmouth, Here- " ford, Radnor, Brecknock, Salop, Worceſter, " Glouceſter, Stafford, Warwick, &c. the three

" Cathedrals of Worceſter, Glouceſter, and Here-
" ford, together with many market-towns. If you
" are pleaſed with a nearer view, the pear-trees of
" Worceſterſhire, when in bloſſom, furniſh ſuch
" a ſcene as the world beſides cannot equal. On
" the weſtern ſide the apple-trees in Herefordſhire,
" with their purple hue, make an agreeable va-
" riety; add to this the varied ground, the beauti-
" ful little hills and the rich woods which improve
" the Herefordſhire proſpect. If to the beauty of
" the ſituation we add the ſalubrity and pureneſs
" of the air, we may venture to report, that, at
" leaſt for the ſummer months, Malvern is as deſir-
" able a reſidence as any in England."

The reſort of company to this place, for the advantage of the water, has been the occaſion of much improvement in the general accommodation; a large houſe, ſituate under a ſhelter of part of theſe hills, but a conſiderable diſtance from the village, called the WELLS HOUSE, is built for the reception of thoſe who come to drink the waters. To be brief, few, if any, watering places in the kingdom, can boaſt of more pleaſant or more convenient accommodation for viſitors, than Malvern,

" Whether as gueſts who tarry but a day,"

or whether they reſide there during the whole of the ſeaſon.

Here was anciently an Abbey, founded in the time of the Saxons, for regular Monks, the revenues of which were ſeized at the diſſolution of

religious houſes. Some parts of this ancient ſtructure are ſtill ſtanding, particularly the porch or entrance, a fine piece of Gothic architecture. The Church is alſo a noble building, and from it may be formed ſome idea of the original grandeur of the edifice.

To the ſouth-eaſt, is

BLACKMORE PARK.

This is a very neat manſion, the ſeat of J. Hornyold, Eſq. The houſe, which is placed towards a fine ſouthern aſpect, is a neat modern ſtructure, and contains ſome good pictures, principally family portraits. The ſituation is pleaſant, in a fertile country, having on the weſt the long range of the Malvern Hills, a fine object; towards the ſouth, the view extends over a large extent of country, to which the rocks above Cheltenham, and the contiguous hills, are pleaſing boundaries, more particularly when ſeen under the favourable advantage of a fine ſetting ſun.

About a mile to the eaſt, is

THE RHYD,

The ſeat of Anthony Lechmere, Eſq. near to the Severn, the banks of which here riſe up to a conſiderable heighth. Towards the ſouth of the manſion is a fine wood, and from the cliffs, under which the river forms a pleaſing curve, the views are really beautiful, comprehending towards the north the

city of Worceſter in the diſtance, and as rich boundaries as can well be wiſhed for. However, notwithſtanding the united advantages of rock, wood, and water, this place, upon the whole, beſpeaks nothing extraordinary, though it might be rendered as much the contrary as modern fancy would require.

Contiguous, under the brow of a hill, covered with a fine wood, which adds much to the general ſcenery of the country, is a ſeat appertaining to Sir Charles Trubſhaw Withers.

Keeping down the current of the Severn,

SEVERN END

Preſents itſelf, an old comfortable manſion, the ſeat of Edmund Lechmere, Eſq. This family came out of the Netherlands, ſerved under William the Conqueror, and obtained lands in Hanley, called from them Lechmere's Place and Lechmere's Field. Nicholas Lechmere was created in 1721, Baron of Eveſham; he was a good lawyer, a quick and diſtinguiſhed orator, much courted by the whig party, but of a hot and violent temper. His impetuoſity once led him to ſpeak in the Houſe of Commons the inſtant he had taken the oaths; upon which a Member facetiouſly objected to Mr. Lechmere as not a *fitting* Member, he never having ſat down in the Houſe before he ſpoke.

In this pariſh, according to the authority of Lord Lechmere, was born Biſhop Bonner, ſon of an ho-

neſt poor man, in a houſe, called Bonner's Place, and that his Lordſhip's great grandfather was intimately acquainted with the Biſhop, and received favours from him, in gratitude for ſome received by Bonner from the Lechmeres in his childhood; particularly their putting him to ſchool.

HANLEY CASTLE.

This caſtle ſtood at no great diſtance from the banks of the Severn, formerly the reſidence of the Dukes of Warwick, afterwards of Lord De Spencer. It was a large ſquare building, with four towers, ſurrounded by a moat; the keep was placed in the north-weſt corner; but no traces now remain of this once extenſive building.

Queen Elizabeth granted the manor of Hanley to the Hornyolds, in which deſcent it continues to the preſent period. They are allied by marriage to the Ruſſels, Lygons, &c. and, as Mr. Abingdon obſerves, were originally deſcended by the female line from Butler, a branch of the houſe of Ormond. This family, as well as many others in the county, ſuffered much in the great rebellion; Thomas Hornyold ſerved King Charles I. brought a troop of horſe, at his own charge, and put himſelf at their head, under the command of the Earl of Cleveland; being vanquiſhed, he was forced to fly from his country, and, being found guilty of high treaſon againſt the Parliament, his property was ſequeſtered, and a large quantity of timber ſold from his eſtates,

to repair the loſſes of one Alderman Elwins, of Worceſter, who had been engaged in the rebellious army.—At no great diſtance to the ſouth-weſt, is

UPTON.

This is a neat fair town, placed in rather a low ſituation on the banks of the Severn, over which it has a bridge, built by act of Parliament, in the reign of James I. at the expence of the county. During the civil wars, one arch was broken down, and a battery of cannon placed in the churchyard, in order to hinder the Parliamentary forces from croſſing the river; but the object was not obtained. The town is tolerably large, containing about 432 houſes, and 2376 inhabitants. The church is a neat ſtructure, erected in the year 1758, the living of which is in the gift of the Biſhop of Worceſter. Many coins, and other pieces of antiquity, have been dug up here, but at preſent the town does not contain any remarkable buildings. The market-day is on Thurſday, beſides which it has the following fairs: on March 19, May 28, July 10, and Sept. 17.

As this is at the extremity of the propoſed diſtance, being about ten miles to the ſouth of Worceſter, we will return up the Severn about a mile, at which place is a charming rural box belonging to Lord Coventry, uſed, as I am informed, principally for fiſhing parties and excurſions on the river.

It is placed on a fine aſcent, cloſe to the Severn, half concealed by the luxuriant trees around, and from the water makes a pleaſing and pictureſque object.—Croſſing ſome excellent paſture ground, the village of

SEVERN STOKE

Preſents itſelf; in which is a comfortable manſion-houſe, the occaſional reſidence of the Rev. T. Evans, D. D. Archdeacon of Worceſter.

About a mile and a half over the hill, towards the eaſt, is

CROOME.

This is the elegant ſeat of the Earl of Coventry, Recorder of the city of Worceſter. The lordſhip of Croome was purchaſed by Sir Thomas Coventry, Juſtice of the Court of Common Pleas, 3 James I. Thomas, his ſon, was advanced by Charles I. to the eminent office of Keeper of the Great Seal, in which he continued till his death. He was an able ſtateſman, and, from the uniform zeal he demonſtrated in ſupporting the King's meaſures, became odious to Parliament, and probably had he lived longer would have fallen a ſacrifice to the rage of party. In the year 1697, Thomas, then Baron Coventry, was created Earl of Coventry and Viſcount Deerhurſt.

The preſent manſion was deſigned by Mr. Browne, and though part of an old building is preſerved, the rooms are juſtly and conveniently diſpoſed. For

the elevation and ground plan of it—*ſee Vitruvius Britannicus.* The furniture is handſome, eſpecially the French mirrors and the Gobelin tapeſtry, the fineſt perhaps in England. The park and pleaſure grounds are upon a large ſcale, drained, and beautified by an artificial river, which has been carried for the diſtance of a mile and a half, but apparently with too much regularity. The rule and compaſs ſhould never be diſcernible where that element is concerned; it afterwards expands itſelf through the park, and preſents many charming points of view.

Mr. Sullivan, in his tour through England, gives the following deſcription of theſe elegant grounds:

"The grounds are excellent, and kept in the "fineſt order; on leaving the houſe, you turn "through a ſhrubbery, filled with a choice aſſem-"blage of plants, to a ſmall building on an emi-"nence, called the Rotondo, whence is a proſpect "of hill, wood, and dale, and of every beauty "that can give richneſs to a ſcene. Nature has, "in this view, poured out a profuſion of her boun-"ties. Still continuing through the ſhrubbery, which "affords a pleaſant variety, you arrive at a neat "modern-built church, in the Gothic ſtyle. Here "the ſcene diverſifies, and opens a ſomewhat more "extenſive proſpect. No ſituation could have "afforded more conveniency for the manſion, nor "could the eye have wiſhed for a more command-"ing view. Leaving the church, you enter a ſhrub-

" bery, which is much inferior to the preceding,
" but at the end is adorned with green-houſes, am-
" ply ſtored with a variety of exotics. From the
" green-houſe you paſs through a nurſery of young
" trees of all denominations, and come, at length,
" to a machine, which, by the labour of one horſe,
" ſupplies the canal with water in the ſummer ſea-
" ſon. Quitting this, you deſcend on one ſide of
" the church into another ſhrubbery, in the ſame
" degree of order, but ſuperior in beauty to that
" which commences at the houſe; and about the
" centre of it come to another green-houſe con-
" ſiderably larger than the former, and ſerving the
" purpoſe of a lively apartment, upon the removal
" of the plants into the open air. Thence proceed-
" ing, you paſs under the high-road, and enter
" upon a highly delightful and pictureſque walk
" along the borders of the river. Here, indeed,
" Mr. Browne has exerted his judgment and taſte
" with the greateſt ſucceſs; for, inſtead of a marſhy
" piece of ground, as he found it, it is now worked
" into a beautiful ſheet of water, with ſeveral little
" iſlands, regularly interſperſed. To one of theſe
" little iſlands, where a ſmall pavillion is erected,
" there are two bridges, over both of which we
" paſſed; and thence, for a conſiderable way, trac-
" ing the confines of the water, and encountering
" freſh beauties at every ſtep we advanced, we at
" length arrived at a ſmall boat, which, worked by
" the aid of pullies, carried us acroſs the water,

" and landed us within a few paces of our carriage.
" Altogether, this ſeat of Lord Coventry is worthy
" of attention. Much pains have evidently been
" taken in the laying out of the grounds, and the
" whole is kept in the moſt proper order."

If we examine the vicinity of this ſeat in an agricultural point of view, we ſhall there find objects worthy of our attention. The houſe at Croome, ſays a writer, in the Agricultural View of Worceſterſhire, is ſurrounded with 1400 acres of land under the Earl's own inſpection, upon which you do not ſee a thiſtle growing, nor a tree or buſh undeſigned, or out of place. It may, very juſtly, be ſtiled a pattern farm for this kingdom, from its well-formed plantations, and its judicious and extenſive drains. The late Judge Perrot uſed frequently to ſay, that Lord Coventry had brought a million of money into Worceſterſhire, by his ſkilful exertions in making the roads throughout the county.

But before we cloſe the preſent ſmall Tour, it will certainly be proper to make a trifling deviation to

STRENSHAM,

Which lies about a mile and a half to the ſouth-eaſt of the park belonging to the Earl of Coventry, noted for being the reſidence of the ancient family of the Ruſſels, as alſo for the birth-place of the celebrated poet Butler.

Samuel Butler, the author of Hudibras, was the ſon of a gentleman farmer in this village, where he

was born, 1612, and educated at the Grammar-ſchool at Worceſter, under Mr. H. Bright; after paſſing ſix or ſeven years at College, he was for ſome time, according to the author of his life, Clerk to Mr. Jeffreys, of Earl's Croome, an eminent Juſtice of the Peace. In this ſervice, he had not only leiſure for ſtudy, but for recreation; his amuſements were muſic and painting, and though his attempts in the latter never arrived at any great proficiency, yet his performance in that art procured him the friendſhip of the celebrated Cooper. Dr. Naſh, who publiſhed a fine quarto edition of our Author's Poem, is Lord of the Manor, and proprietor of almoſt all the pariſh: he mentions to have ſeen many of his paintings at Earl's Croome, where they ſerved to ſtop up windows, and ſave the tax; but he obſerves, they were not fit for much elſe.

Butler was of a modeſt humble temper, had great parts, with profound and various learning. He lived contented, though in narrow circumſtances, and on his death, which happened in the year 1680, was buried in Covent-Garden Church, at the expence of his friend, Mr. Longueville, who had in vain ſolicited a ſubſcription to lay him in Weſtminſter Abbey: and within theſe few years a monument has been erected to his memory in Covent-Garden Church, at the expence of the inhabitants of the pariſh. Many years after his death, a memorial was erected to him in Weſtminſter Abbey by

by Alderman Barber, a Printer, wherein he ſays, he erected that monument,

" Ne cui vivo deerant fere omnia
" Deeſſet etiam mortuo tumulus."

Perhaps the rigidneſs of Butler's fate might be principally owing to the ſeverity of his ſatire, for thoſe who are pleaſed with the follies of others, when told of their own faults, find themſelves ſomewhat ſore. Hence he, by making many *powerleſs* friends, created ſome *powerful* enemies, which thoſe who thought proper to reſent, were aſhamed to own they felt. For according to the poet,

" 'Tis dang'rous too, in theſe licentious times,
" Howe'er ſevere the ſmile, to ſport with crimes;
" Vices, when ridicul'd, experience ſays,
" Firſt loſe that horror which they ought to raiſe,
" Grow by degrees approv'd, and almoſt aim at praiſe."

THE

WORCESTER DIRECTORY.

BANKERS.

MESSRS. Berwick, Lechmere, Wall, and Iſaac—Meſſrs. Johnſon, and Lea—Meſſrs. Farley, Wakeman, and Co.—and Mr. T. Bevington.

WORCESTER FIRE-OFFICE,

At Mr. Carden's, at the Croſs.

MARKET-DAYS.

Mondays, Wedneſdays, and Saturdays.

FAIRS.

Saturday before Palm-Sunday, Saturday in Eaſter week, the 15th of Auguſt, 19th of September, and firſt Monday in December.—The following markets are toll-free: ſecond Monday in February, firſt Monday in the months of May, June, July, and November.

POSTS.

The *London* Poſt—Arrives every day from London (except Monday) about noon, and returns at three o'clock (except Saturday.)

Birmingham, or North Poſt—Goes out every night to Droitwich, Bromſgrove, Stourbridge, Dudley, Wolverhampton, Shrewſbury, Bridgnorth, all Shropſhire, Warwickſhire, Staffordſhire, North of Ireland; comes in every evening at nine.

Briſtol, or Weſt Poſt—Goes out every night, at nine, to Tewkeſbury, Gloceſter, Bath, Somerſetſhire, and the Weſt of England, South Wales, and the South of Ireland; comes in every morning at five o'clock.

Ludlow Poſt—Comes in on Sunday, Wedneſday, and Friday, about one in the afternoon; returns the ſame day, at half paſt two.

Hereford Poſt—Comes in Monday, Wedneſday, and Friday, about noon; returns on Tueſday, Thurſday, and Saturday, after the coming in of the London Poſt.

Leominſter Poſt—Goes out and comes in every day, through Bromyard.

Upton Poſt—Goes out and comes in every day, (except Monday).

Bewdley Poſt—Goes out every morning, at five, to Stourport, Bewdley, and Kidderminſter; returns the ſame day, about ſeven.

MAIL AND STAGE COACHES.

Bath Coach—(Sixty-ſeven miles the direct road)—every Monday, Wedneſday, and Friday mornings, at eight o'clock, from the Crown; returns Tueſday, Thurſday, and Saturday evenings, at four o'clock.

Bath—Every Tueſday, Thurſday, and Saturday morning, at ſeven, from the Hop-pole; comes in Monday, Wedneſday, and Friday afternoon, about eight o'clock.

Birmingham Mail—(Diſtant 26 miles)—every morning at four o'clock, from the Star and Garter; comes in at half paſt eight each evening.

Birmingham—Every morning at eight (except Sunday) from ditto; comes in about one in the afternoon.

Birmingham—Every Tueſday, Thurſday, and Saturday

evening, at four o'clock, from the Crown; returns Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, at eight.

Birmingham—Every day (except Sunday,) about three in the afternoon, from the Unicorn; comes in about eight in the morning.

Birmingham—From the Bell, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at two; comes in at eight in the morning.

Briſtol Mail—(Diſtant 61 miles)—every night at half paſt eight, from the Star and Garter; comes in at four in the morning.

Briſtol—Every morning (except Sunday,) at eight, from the Unicorn; comes in about two in the afternoon.

Briſtol—Every morning (except Sunday,) at eight, from the Bell; comes in about two in the afternoon.

Cheſter (diſtant 88,) and *Holyhead* (170)—Every Tueſday, Thurſday, and Saturday, at ſix in the morning, from the Hop-pole; comes in Monday, Wedneſday, and Friday evenings, at ſix.

Hereford Mail—(Diſtant 32)—Tueſday, Thurſday, and Saturday, about twelve at noon; comes in Monday, Wedneſday, and Friday; Office, Bell yard.

Leominſter—On Sunday and Wedneſday, about eleven in the forenoon, from the Bell; comes in on Tueſday and Friday, at noon.

London Mail—(Diſtant 115, to the Standard in Cornhill)—through Henley, every afternoon, at three; except Saturday, when it goes out at two; from the Star and Garter; comes in about noon.

London—From the Unicorn, every day, Thurſday excepted, about one; comes in about ten in the morning; Office, Bell yard.

Ludlow Mail—Every Wedneſday, Friday, and Saturday,

about two o'clock, from the Star-and-Garter; comes in the ſame day, about noon.

Ludlow—Every Tueſday afternoon, at two o'clock; from the Bell.

Shrewſbury—Every Tueſday, Thurſday, and Saturday morning, at ſix, from the Hop-pole; comes in Monday, Wedneſday, and Friday evenings, about ſix.

STAGE WAGGONS.

Birmingham Waggons—Come in and go out every Tueſday, Wedneſday, and Saturday; from the Pack-Horſe.

Briſtol—Monday and Thurſday mornings; from the Pack-Horſe.

Bromyard and *Hereford*—Wedneſday and Saturday mornings; from the Pack-Horſe.

Droitwich—Mondays, Wedneſdays, and Saturdays; from the Brewer's Arms.

Dudley—Goes out Wedneſdays and Saturdays; returns Mondays and Thurſdays.

Kidderminſter—Friday morning; from the Hop Market.

Ledbury, *Hereford*, and *South-Wales*—Every Wedneſday and Saturday; from Angel-ſtreet.

Leominſter—Every Wedneſday and Saturday.

Leominſter—Comes in Mondays, and goes out on Wedneſdays; from the Pack-Horſe.

London—(Smith)—Every Monday and Thurſday night, from Friar's-ſtreet; ſets out from the Saracen's Head, Snow-Hill, for Worceſter, every Saturday morning at eleven o'clock; calls at Dorey's, Green Man and Still, Oxford-ſtreet.

London—(Allies, Burden and Horn)—Every Monday night, from Friar's-ſtreet; ſets out from the Saracen's-Head, Snow-Hill, as above.

London—(Goulding and Shirley)—Every Tuesday and Friday nights, from Angel-lane; sets out from the Falcon-Inn, Aldersgate-street, for Worcester, &c. every Tuesday and Saturday.

Ludlow—Thursday evenings, from the Hop Market.

Oxford—Tuesday evening; from Sidbury.

Pershore and *Evesham*—Wednesdays and Saturdays; from the Pack-Horse and Angel-street.

Wolverhampton Caravan—Thursday mornings, at four; from the Peacock, in the Trinity; comes in Fridays.

WHERRIES.

Gloucester—(Bridges)—Tuesdays and Fridays; Marquis of Granby.

Bewdley—(Tyler)—Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays; Green Dragon.

Bridgnorth—(Collins and Jones)—Tuesdays and Fridays; ditto.

Shrewsbury—(Brown and Co.)—Once a week, Britannia.

WEEKLY BARGES.

Bewdley—(Field)—Mondays and Thursdays; Green Dragon.

Bewdley—(Corker)—Mondays and Thursdays; Britannia.

Upton, *Tewkesbury*, and *Gloucester*—(Mew)—Saturdays; Anchor.

Rid and *Upton*—(Haw)—Saturdays; Marquis of Granby.

Rid and *Upton*—(Pumphrey)—Saturdays; Marquis of Granby.

REGULAR TROWS.

To and from *Bristol*—Every Full and Change of the Moon.

Bridgnorth and *Stourport*—(Wilkinson)—Neptune, and Hopewell.

Bewdley and *Stourport*—(Mules, Barnet, and Co.)—Hopewell, Succeſs, Active, and Defiance.

Bewdley and *Stourport*—(Devey)—William and Mary, John, Induſtry, and Betſey.

Worceſter and *Stourport*—(Child and Co. late F. Farley, Eſq.)—Worceſter, Proſper, Neptune, and John.

N. B. *Iriſh* Traders ſail conſtant from *Briſtol*.

THE END.

18 AP 68

Juſt publiſhed,

By the ſame Author,

AN

HISTORICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL

ACCOUNT OF LEOMINSTER,

With Seven neat Engravings.

PRICE 6s.

AN

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

OF

THE CITY OF HEREFORD,

WITH SOME

REMARKS on the River WYE.

Embelliſhed with VIEWS, PLANS, &c.

PRICE 6s.

THE LUDLOW GUIDE.

PRICE 1s. 6D.

&c. &c.